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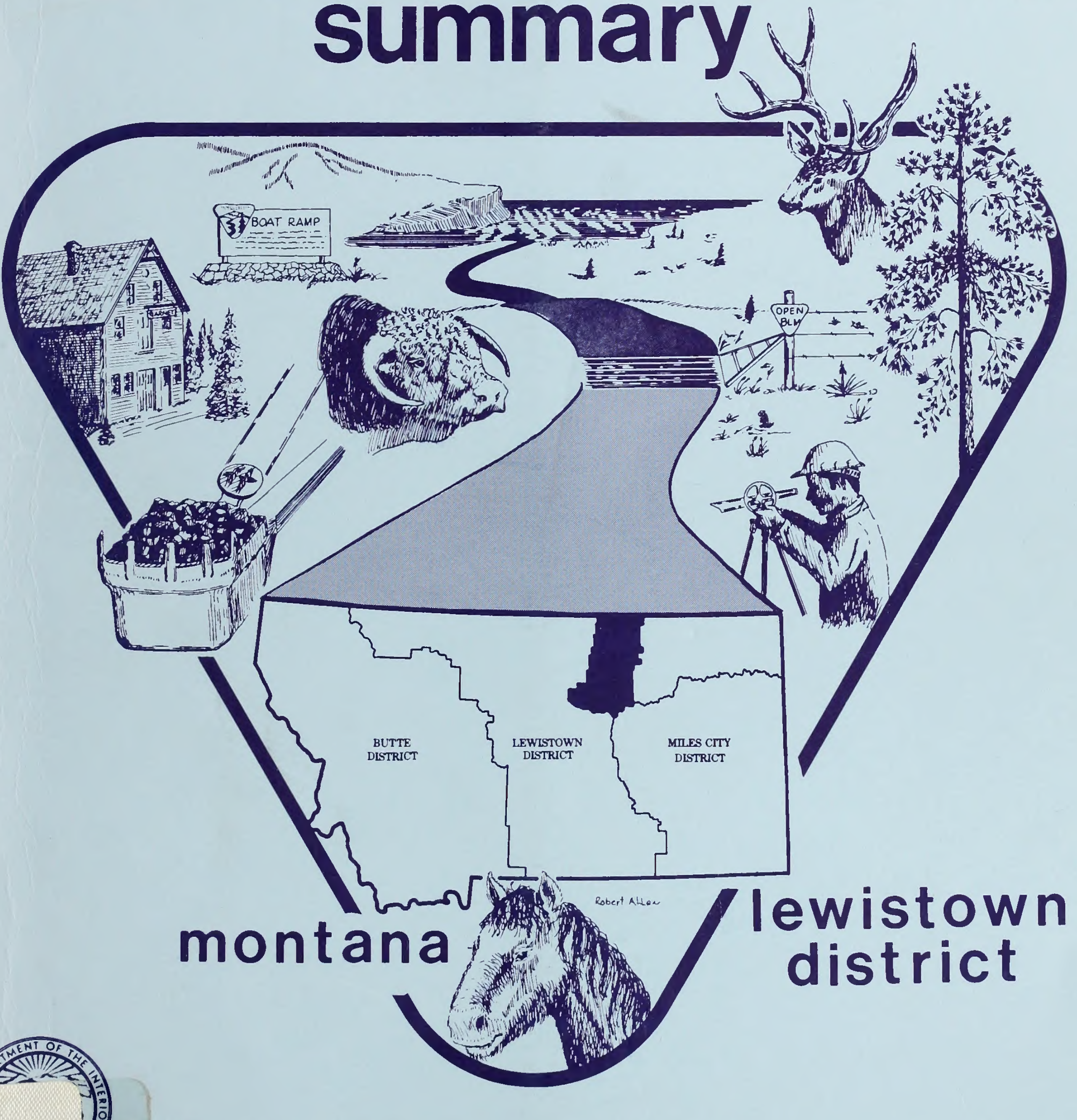
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
summary



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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A COMBINED SUMMARY
OF THE
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLANS
FOR THE
PHILLIPS (UL BEND-ZORTMAN)
AND
LITTLE ROCKIES
PLANNING UNITS

March 1978

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Preface

The Bureau of Land Management's Montana State organization manages resources on almost 8.4 million acres of surface land and 55 million acres of subsurface minerals in Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. The Lewistown District Office is responsible for more than 3.8 million surface and 8.1 million subsurface acres. These public lands are used by many people for a variety of activities. It is BLM's responsibility to develop coordinated land use decisions which specify the best use and protection of the public's resources.

To better prepare for present and future demands on public lands, BLM has developed land use plans for many areas of the state. This publication is a joint summary of the land use decisions for public lands in the Phillips (UL Bend-Zortman) and Little Rockies Planning Units. These planning units cover approximately 328 thousand surface and 390 thousand subsurface acres.

These decisions were made after gathering all available resource data and requesting the viewpoints of local citizens, the user public and local organizations. Every rancher who has an allotment on public lands within the planning units was contacted during allotment management plan inventory time. In addition, ranchers who had adjustments proposed in their allocated carrying capacity were contacted and invited by letter to have a personal interview with the Phillips Resource Area Manager. Their comments and suggestions were requested.

Additional public input was obtained by continuous dialogue with representatives of the Montana Department of Fish and Game and the Phillips County Cooperative State Grazing Districts. Finally, an open house, preceded by local newspaper coverage, was held on November 30, 1977 in the Phillips Resource Area office for the purposes of receiving public comments.

This information, as well as the technical expertise of BLM resource specialists, was combined, analyzed, and considered in formulating the land use decisions outlined on the following pages. By design, these decisions are flexible so they can deal with new demands or new conditions to help keep this Management Framework Plan current and effective.

In the interest of clarity and brevity, this report is necessarily an abbreviated version of the total planning process. Specific information not included in this report are detailed maps, detailed physical and resource inventory data, and social and economic data. These materials, as well as the other components of BLM's land use planning process, are available for public review during regular business hours at the Phillips Resource Area Office in Malta or the Lewistown District Office in Lewistown. If you wish to review these documents, please make an appointment so we can have someone available to discuss them with you.

My staff and I thank everyone who assisted in this effort, especially those members of the public who contributed to the final product. We look forward to working with you again in developing similar plans or updating completed plans as the need arises.

John F Fields

John F. Fields
District Manager

INTRODUCTION

BLM Planning System

Under the Bureau's planning system, available information is gathered, studies are made and management decisions are developed in seven categories. These categories are lands, minerals, timber, range, watershed, wildlife habitat and recreation. In order to meet the needs of its diverse public users, BLM must effectively balance the management of these resources. Under the concept of multiple use management, all potential uses of the public's resources are equally considered and evaluated before a management framework plan (MFP) is developed and implemented.

The Bureau of Land Management has developed its land use planning system with three major components: These are Program Direction, Resource Information, and Management Decisions.

Program Direction

General program direction, policies, goals and priorities are set by the President, Congress, and the Secretary of the Interior. These directions are expressed in executive orders, laws, regulations and other documents.

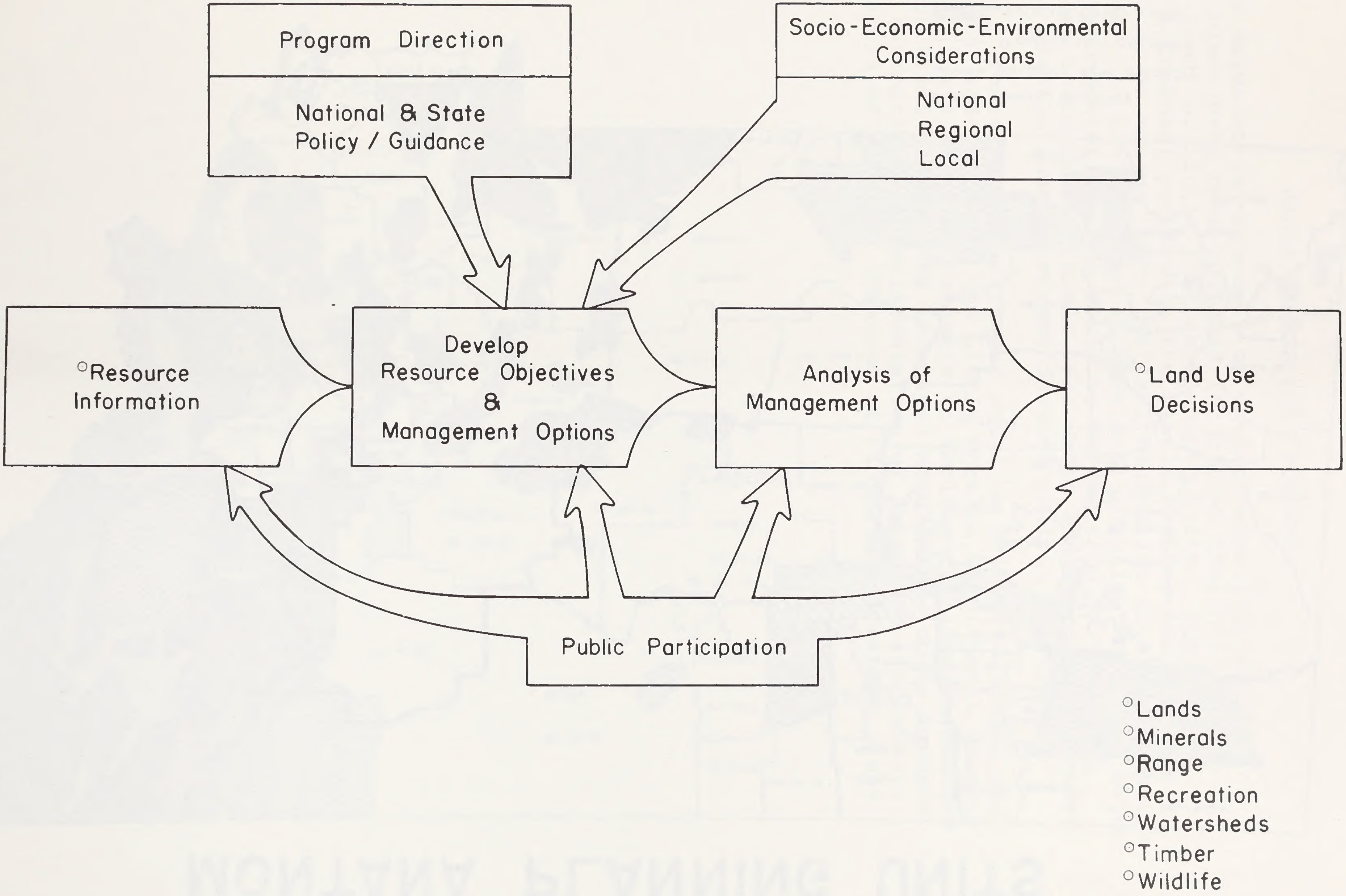
Resource Information

In initiating this phase of the planning system, BLM specialists gather all of the necessary land and resource information relative to the region under study. Each resource specialist--the forester, range conservationist, minerals specialist, watershed specialist, etc.--analyzes the situation within the planning unit area to determine current conditions, use, trends and problems concerning his resource responsibility. This analysis is then further developed to identify maximum potential for the resource use without consideration of competing or conflicting uses. The importance of this step is that each resource potential is considered individually. In addition, socio-economic data is gathered and environmental impacts are analyzed to aid in the evaluation of land use alternatives developed by the planning system. In compiling the above information, the Bureau contacts traditional as well as new interests, to be certain that all available data has been obtained before the planning process is completed.

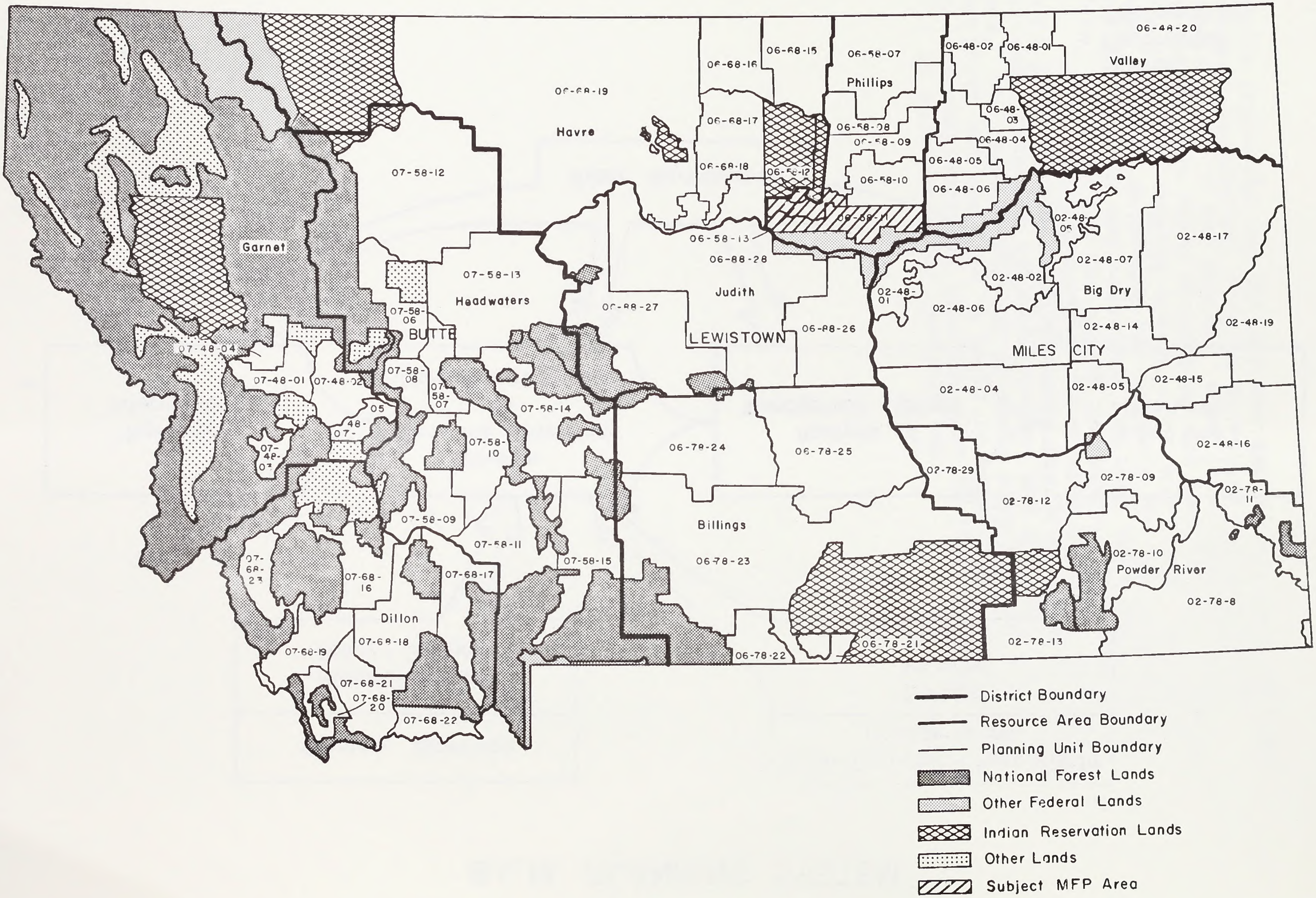
Management Decisions

The next phase of the planning system serves to resolve resource use conflicts and to provide basic guidelines for the use and management of the public lands being analyzed. This is the heart of the planning system. At this stage, each resource specialist prepares objectives and outlines specific proposals for the optimum use of his resource based on current technology, program direction and the socio-economic needs of the region. Each individual resource proposal is then fully documented and individually presented using a map and overlay system. At this point, conflicts between various proposals for resource use are pinpointed. Possible multiple use solutions are then identified through careful analysis and the use of narratives, maps and overlays. Based on comments and information received through public participation, BLM managers are often able to develop additional resource use alternatives and multiple use solutions. The impacts of each of these alternatives are identified and analyzed in order to select the best mix of uses. A comprehensive land use plan is then developed with built in guidelines for resource use.

B.L.M. PLANNING SYSTEM



MONTANA PLANNING UNITS



District Boundary
Resource Area Boundary
Planning Unit Boundary
▩ National Forest Lands
▒ Other Federal Lands
▦ Indian Reservation Lands
░ Other Lands
▨ Subject MFP Area

MAJOR ISSUES AND PROBLEMS

Few major social-economic or environmental issues and problems have been surfaced for either the Phillips (UL-Zortman) or Little Rockies Planning Units. The major environmental problem in the Little Rockies would be the impact of mining under the 1872 mining law on other resource uses. In the Phillips (UL-Zortman) planning unit, the major environmental problem would be overgrazing by livestock (some concentration areas near water and in coulee bottoms) and prairie dogs (numerous denuded prairie dog towns).

Major social-economic issues would be the influx of mining people and income in the Little Rockies, additional government funds spent on projects to implement Allotment Management Plans (AMPs), the increased maintenance costs imposed on ranchers after implementation of AMPs, and the impacts associated with the creation of proposed wilderness areas.

LANDS

Background

BLM's lands program is designed to meet public needs for land and to support public lands management programs.

Land status in both planning units is as follows:

Land Status	Phillips (UL-Zortman)		Little Rockies	
	Acres	%	Acres	%
Public Land	318,178	53	25,828	92
State Land	32,380	5	10	-
Private Land	254,714	42	2,202	8

Agriculture is the major contributor to the area's economy and rangeland constitutes the largest single land use. Other major land uses include private cropland, recreation, and mining. Future land uses will probably increase with the exploration and development of oil, gas, sand and gravel.

There are no major population centers in the planning units. The three small communities that do exist are DY Junction, Landusky, and Zortman. Projected growth in population for these communities will be slow. Should mining activity and recreation increase in the Little Rockies, however, there may be a need for public land for communities of Landusky and Zortman.

There have been relatively few applications for rights-of-way across public lands in the past. With new and increased demand on public land uses, it is predicted that rights-of-way will be needed for water facilities, pipelines, powerlines, and roads.

Land Resource Allocation Decisions

Little Rockies

1. Delay action on residential homesite leases and sales until local government comprehensive planning and zoning is completed in this area. Work with local government in developing a comprehensive plan and zoning regulations if requested.

2. Provide communication sites, but confine them to Antione Butte. Permits shall be granted only when they do not significantly degrade the aesthetic characteristics.

3. Provide rights-of-way on a case by case basis, but only after it is determined that the aesthetic values will not be significantly degraded. Make sure that powerline proposals contain adequate raptor protection stipulations. Place all transmission lines underground where possible.

4. Authorize the Zortman cemetery by existing laws and regulations. Refuse sites at Zortman and Landusky should also be authorized if they are needed. Conduct a thorough inventory of the public lands to identify any other trespasses and process in a timely manner. Establish a better zone around the refuse sites.

5. Revoke the recreation withdrawal in Section 28, T. 25 N., R 24 E.

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

Issue rights-of-way such as power and telephone lines, pipelines, roads and irrigation structures as the need arises. Power and telephone lines will be mostly buried, especially in the Larb Hills and Bull Creek Areas. The final approval of the rights-of-way will be subject to the recommendations of an interdisciplinary team review as to location, archeological requirements, wildlife habitat considerations, raptor protection, scenic construction, and watershed protection.

Environmental Overview

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

The main land use decisions in this planning unit are granting rights-of-way. These will be authorized for power and telephone lines, pipelines, roads, and irrigation canals as the need arises. But they will be authorized only when protective stipulations can minimize adverse impacts.

Social well being, income, employment and the general economy of the area could be adversely affected if rights-of-way were not granted. Conversely, possible negative short and long term impacts could occur within or near these localized areas. These could affect water quality and quantity, visual resources, historic sites and trails, wildlife habitat, and undiscovered cultural resources.

After considering the potential for the number of rights-of-way in the area, it is assumed that the overall environment will benefit from controlled development on public lands.

Little Rockies

Specific land use decisions will provide public lands for development and public use only in those cases: where local planning and zoning are in effect; where aesthetic values will not be significantly degraded; or where it would not be in the public interest to eliminate current authorized uses. Rights-of-way and communication sites will be authorized in very limited areas or corridors where provisions for protection can minimize adverse impacts.

Social well-being, income, employment, tax base and the general economy of the area will not be adversely affected or directly benefited from restricted land disposal and development. The overall environment, including the visual resource, will benefit from controlled development in this somewhat unique plains-uplift area, which receives considerable sightseeing and recreation use by the public.

As a result of these actions, possible short and long term negative impacts could occur within or near these localized areas. These impacts could affect water quality, visual resources, community services (health, education, police, roads, etc.) historic sites and trails, wildlife habitat, and undiscovered cultural resources.

MINERALS

Background

BLM's mineral program includes economic analysis, appraisal and development of mineral resources. Development may proceed by lease, license, or permit on both public mineral estate lands (private surface and Federal minerals) and acquired mineral estate lands. The coordination of exploration and mining activities with other land uses and the provisions for protection and rehabilitation of mined lands are also an important part of the program.

A variety of mineral commodities are known to be present at or under the surface of the planning units. Clay minerals such as bentonite, gold and silver, natural gas, coal, sand and gravel, and "high calcium" limestone represent most of the known mineral commodities with some potential for development. Gold and silver, sand and gravel, and natural gas seem to have the greatest potential for development at present. Only small quantities of these minerals are presently produced in the area.

Gold and Silver

Recent exploration in the Little Rocky Mining District has identified low grade ore bodies which may be worth as much as 300 million dollars. Development activities, including a test which uses a weak cyanide solution to leach gold and silver from the low grade ore, are currently under way.

Sand and Gravel

Sand and gravel deposits are relatively rare except near the Little Rocky Mountains. Road maintenance problems throughout the southern part of Phillips County account for most of the demand for sand and gravel. Other uses such as aggregate for concrete, account for the rest. Since transportation is one of the major costs of sand and gravel, no development of the resource beyond the local demand is foreseen.

One of the best sources of sand and gravel in the area is the Ruby Gulch Mine tailings near Zortman. Fairly uniform in size, it has almost no oversized material. The tailings are being washed down Ruby Gulch from the old ore dumps and are causing a number of problems for the town of Zortman.

Natural Gas

Geologic formations which are oil and gas producers in other areas are present at the surface and at depth throughout the area with the exception of much of the Little Rockies. Most of the planning area therefore must be considered to have potential for oil and natural gas production.

Most of the public mineral estate lands in the area are leased for oil and gas, but southern Phillips County is one of the least drilled areas in the eastern part of the state. Drilling tests average less than one per township. A total of about 46 exploration (wildcat) wells have been drilled in the area. Of those wells, two are reported to have been shutin and several other wells have had noncommercial shows of natural gas.

Bentonite

Bentonite is reported to outcrop in the southwestern part of Phillips County just north of the Missouri River. There is some indication that this bentonite may be comparable to bentonite of commercial quality located about 20 miles south of Malta. The former probably has little commercial potential at this time because of the thickness of the overlying rocks and steepness of the terrain.

"High Calcium" Limestone

A very pure limestone, characterized by having greater than 95 percent calcium carbonate, occurs in and around the Little Rocky Mountains. This mineral may be suitable for a number of industrial uses such as cement or lime, but has no market at the present time.

Coal

The western end of the planning area is part of the North Central Coal Field. The coal is subbituminous in character, seams are generally less than 30 inches thick, and for the most part too deeply buried for strip mining. Some limited production of coal by local people has occurred in the past but no large scale utilization of this resource is expected in the near future.

Mineral Resource Allocation Decisions (A Partial Listing)

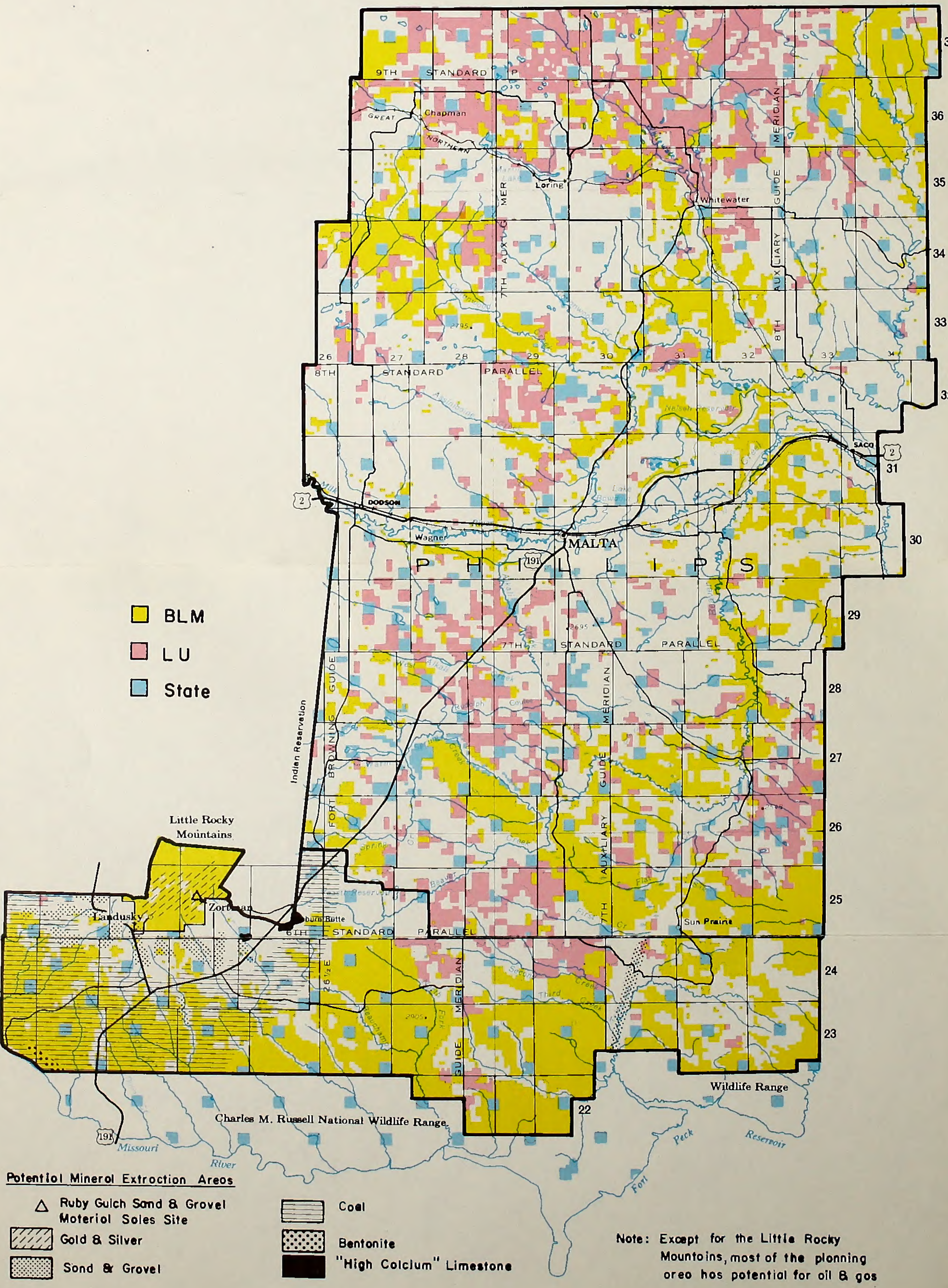
Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

1. Inventory and map all mineral resources in the area. Locate and document sand, gravel and other nonmetallic extraction areas. Develop stipulations to minimize impacts and aid in orderly extractions.

2. Inventory and map potential metallic mineral extraction areas in the Little Rockies. Provide for necessary mining facilities such as tailing ponds, mill sites, ore dumps, etc., adjacent to mineral extraction areas.

3. Permit oil and gas leasing and exploration throughout the planning units subject to certain requirements and restrictions.

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



Note: Except for the Little Rocky Mountains, most of the planning area has potential for oil & gas

4. Allow oil and gas leasing in the Little Rocky Mountains only after reserves have been proven to be present in similar formations immediately adjacent to the boundaries of the Little Rockies. An alternative would be sufficient proof that a potential oil or gas reservoir has been identified.

5. Allow for expanded mineral exploration in the Little Rockies, but attempt to minimize impacts on other resources through recommendations on each proposed mining plan under provisions of state law.

6. Investigate the validity of existing mining claims before BLM development programs are authorized.

7. Develop a community pit for sand and gravel disposal in Ruby Gulch with due consideration of existing rights.

Environmental Overview

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

The Phillips (UL-Zortman) Planning Unit is not known to be highly mineralized. Until significant mineral resources are found, the mineral resource decisions for this area will not significantly affect social or environmental values.

The present level of resource development in this planning unit is very low. Oil, gas, sand and gravel represent the known mineral resources with the greatest potential for development.

Exploration drilling for oil and gas and extraction of sand and gravel have little adverse effect on the environment when careful measures are followed. The decision to allow oil and gas leasing and exploration will only cause significant impacts only when and if a petroleum reservoir is discovered.

The economy of the area has not significantly benefited from past mineral resource development. Only small amounts of revenue have resulted from exploration for oil and gas. The local demand for sand and gravel has in the past been satisfied. There has been no significant impact on social values.

Little Rockies

The Little Rockies is a highly mineralized area with excellent potential for metallic mineral extraction, particularly silver and gold. Recommendations are to inventory and map all potential metallic mineral extraction areas, investigate the validity of existing mining claims and allow for expanded mineral exploration. These will likely provide numerous beneficial and adverse effects on social values and the environment.

Minerals development would result in surface disturbances affecting every resource value to varying degrees. The extent of the impact would depend upon the type of mineral exploration, development, and associated facilities. Provisions for a community sand and gravel pit in Ruby Gulch would allow controlled removal to meet local demand. Since the potential for oil and gas development is slight, there should be minimal effects on the highly sensitive watershed and visual resources.

Mining on any significant scale would benefit the economy of southern Phillips County. The relatively high wages of mining and support personnel would benefit employment, the tax base and support industries. But this could temporarily adversely affect community services and modify local lifestyle by increased population and introduction of contrasting public values.

FOREST PRODUCTS

Background

The forest resource for both planning units is limited to approximately 59,433 acres of timber and consists mostly of ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, and Douglas fir. Timber lands are classified into two categories; protection areas (F2) and limited management areas (F1). The number of acres in each category is shown in the table below.

Type-Category	Little Rockies	Phillips (UL-Zortman)
Protection Areas (F2)	4,166 Acres	40,800 Acres
Limited Management (F1)	14,467 Acres	------

At the present time, the timber program is undeveloped mainly because the market for forest products has been low and sporadic. In the F1 areas however, there has been some small scale selective cuttings for post and poles. Commercial products from the F2 areas have been limited to the sale of decayed, diseased and burnt materials for posts, poles, saw logs and fuel wood. These areas are considered of high value for recreation, wildlife habitat and watershed protection. In the near future it appears there will be a market only for poles, posts, firewood, and Christmas trees due to the small demand and lack of permanent saw mills.

Timber Resource Allocation Decisions

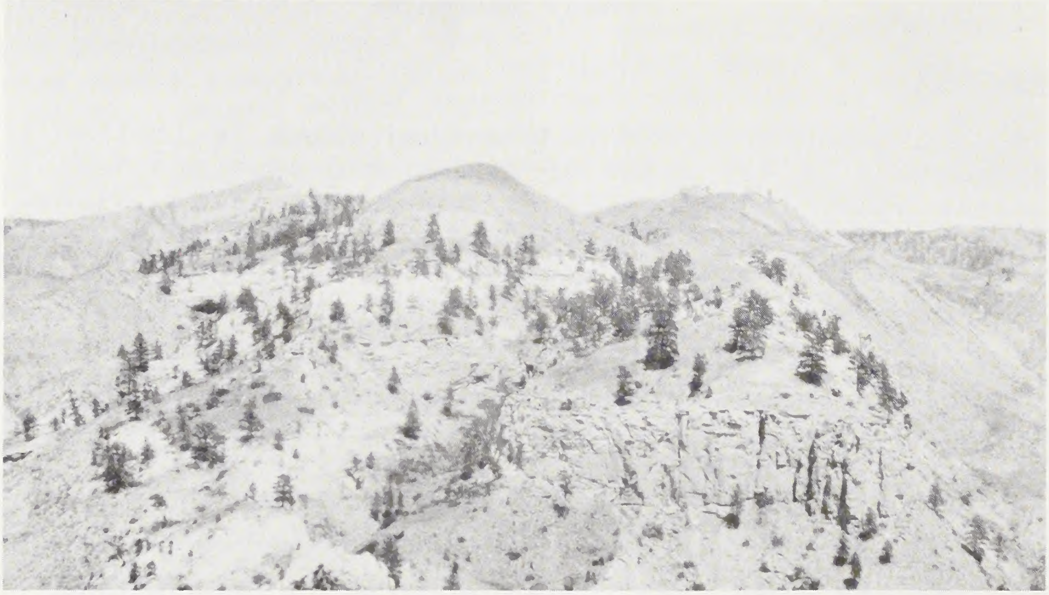
Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

1. Provide for harvest of forest products from the F1 area with due consideration for all other resource values. Exclude any future Christmas tree sales without on-site supervision.

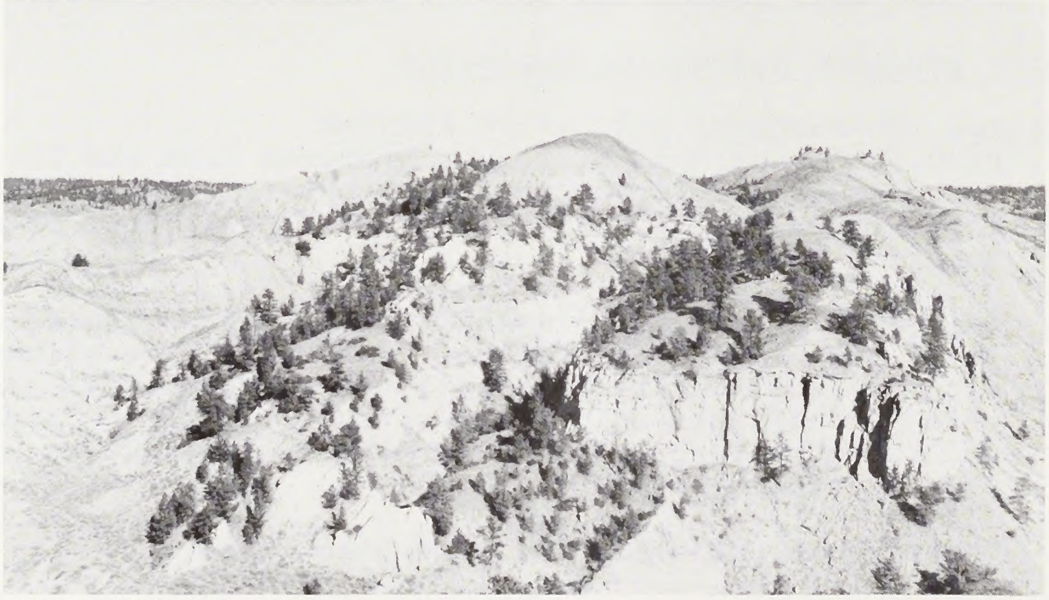
2. Manage F2 areas for watershed protection, wildlife cover and general recreation. Harvest may be allowed with due consideration for all other resource values in case of outbreaks of disease or insects. Allow individual Christmas tree cutting permits in Alder Gulch with on-site supervision.

3. Investigate potential for tree plantings.

4. Maintain extensive management programs to protect the resource from fire, insects, disease and unauthorized harvest.

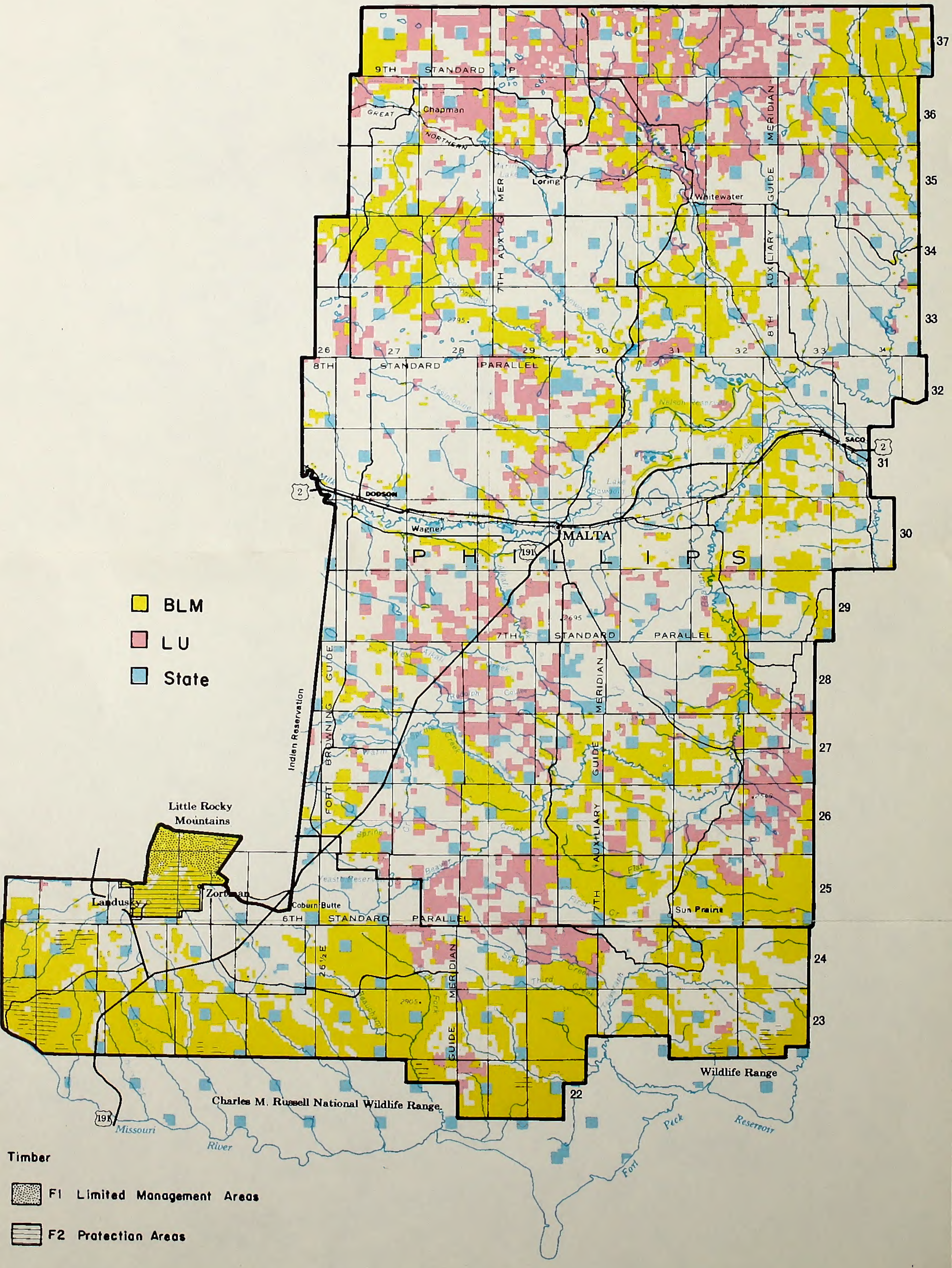


SMALL SANDSTONE OUTCROPS PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT TOPOGRAPHIC BREAKS AND SOIL-MOISTURE CHANGES WHICH ALLOW DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL PINES STANDS (STANTON #1058, CIRCA 1930s)



NOTE THE RELATIVELY SMALL CHANGE IN INDIVIDUAL TREE HEIGHTS AND SLIGHT INCREASE IN TREE NUMBERS. THESE SMALL STANDS WILL BE MANAGED FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION, WILDLIFE COVER, AND GENERAL RECREATION AND PROTECTED FROM FIRE, INSECTS, DISEASE, AND UNAUTHORIZED HARVEST. (GILKERSON #66, 1977)

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



Environmental Overview

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

A significant amount of restricted productive forest lands will be managed for watershed protection, wildlife cover and general recreation. Limited harvests on these restricted forest lands may be necessary to control diseases or insect infected stands. Since these stands are marginal by both productive and operational standards, no significant economic impact is expected from the lack of opportunity to harvest forest products. Additional environmental benefits will occur from well managed forest lands in the form of a more healthy resource capable of providing for other uses.

Little Rockies

Decisions were made to limit commercial forest product sales to approximately 14,000 acres of lands classified for intensive management. These lands have the potential to produce timber products on a sustained yield basis. Measures to protect watershed, aesthetic values, wilderness and wildlife should minimize negative environmental impacts. The historical demand for commercial forest products has been low and sporadic, indicating slight economic and social significance. The demand for firewood is increasing and may be met by harvesting of diseased, decayed and over-mature timber.

A significant amount of restricted productive forest lands will be managed for watershed protection, wildlife cover and general recreation. Limited harvests of these restricted forest lands to control disease and insect infected stands may be necessary. Since these stands are marginal by both productive and operational standards, no significant economic impact is expected from the lack of opportunity to harvest forest products. Additional environmental benefits will occur from well managed forest lands in the form of a more healthy resource capable of providing for other uses.

RANGE MANAGEMENT

Background

Most of the Phillips (UL-Zortman) Planning Unit is comprised of range lands which are a major contributor to the county's agricultural economy. The Little Rockies planning unit has limited value for livestock grazing and is primarily used for recreational activities. 49,770 animal unit months (AUMs) in 75 allotments are administered under Section 3 of the Taylor Grazing Act in the planning units.

Range condition in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) Planning Unit shows that: one (1) percent is in excellent condition; 56 percent is in good condition; 36 percent is in fair condition; 4 percent is in poor condition; and 3 percent is waste. The above range information was determined by the Missouri River Basin studies and modified to reflect current conditions.

There are eight allotment management plans (AMPs) implemented in the planning units. The longevity of these plans varies from one to ten years with both rest rotation and deferred rotation grazing formulas used. These serve predominately to meet vigor and reproduction requirements of the range plants.

Range Resource Allocation Decisions (A Partial Listing)

Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

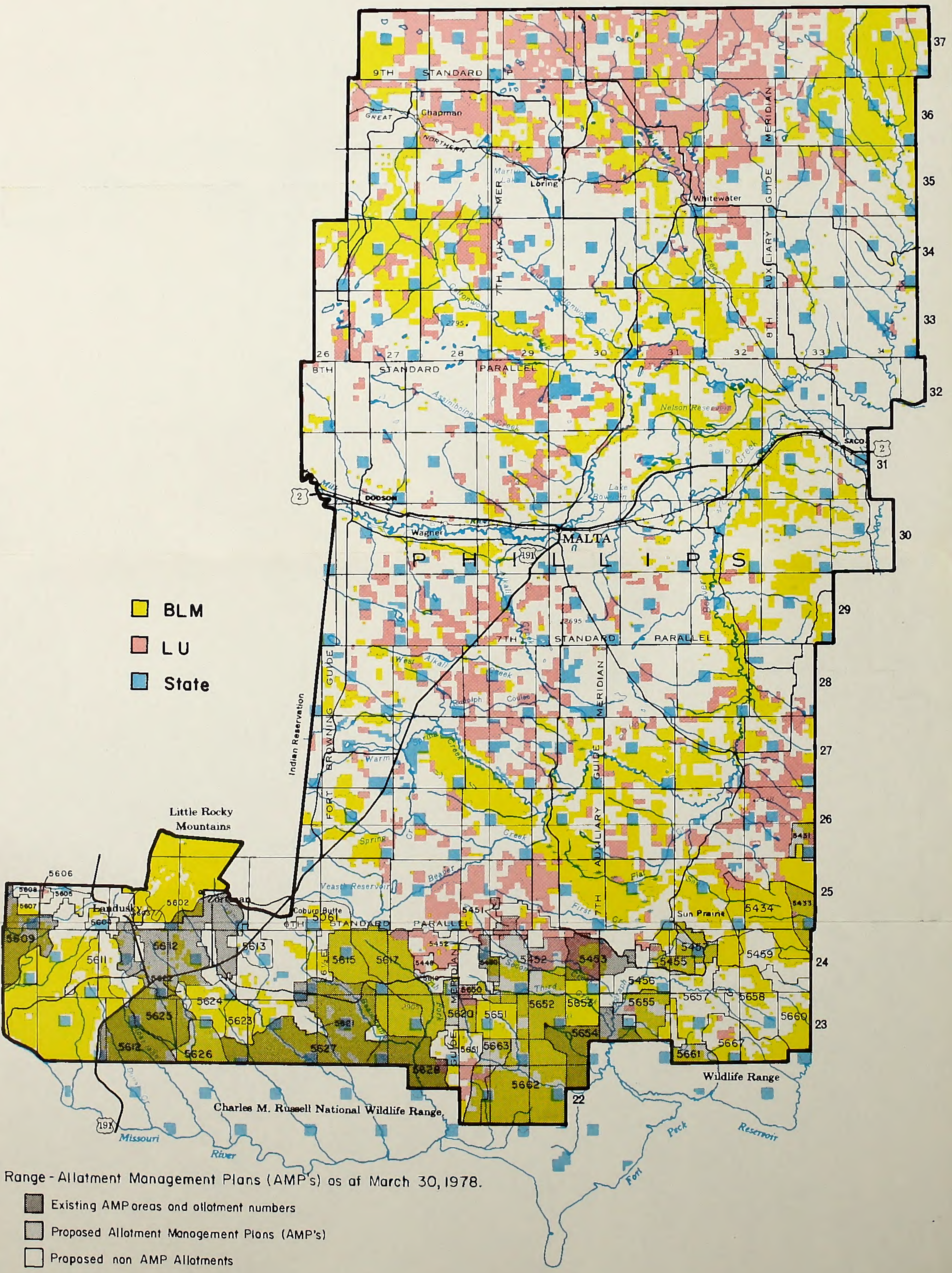
1. Increase efficiency of grazing administration by land pattern adjustments.

2. Allow 1200 acres in the Shotgun Coulee Allotment to be contour furrowed and 210 acres in Upper Third Creek Allotment to be chiseled and reseeded after clearance from possible primitive values and rare and endangered species habitat.

3. Allow animal damage control where significant damage has occurred to other resources and where public welfare is not endangered.

4. Issue grazing permits authorizing use of public lands for the purpose of grazing domestic livestock. These permits must prescribe however, the extent to which livestock can use the public land by AUMs, class of livestock, and season of use. (Note--reference should be made to the complete Management Framework Plan to determine AUM's, class of livestock and season of use for individual allotments).

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



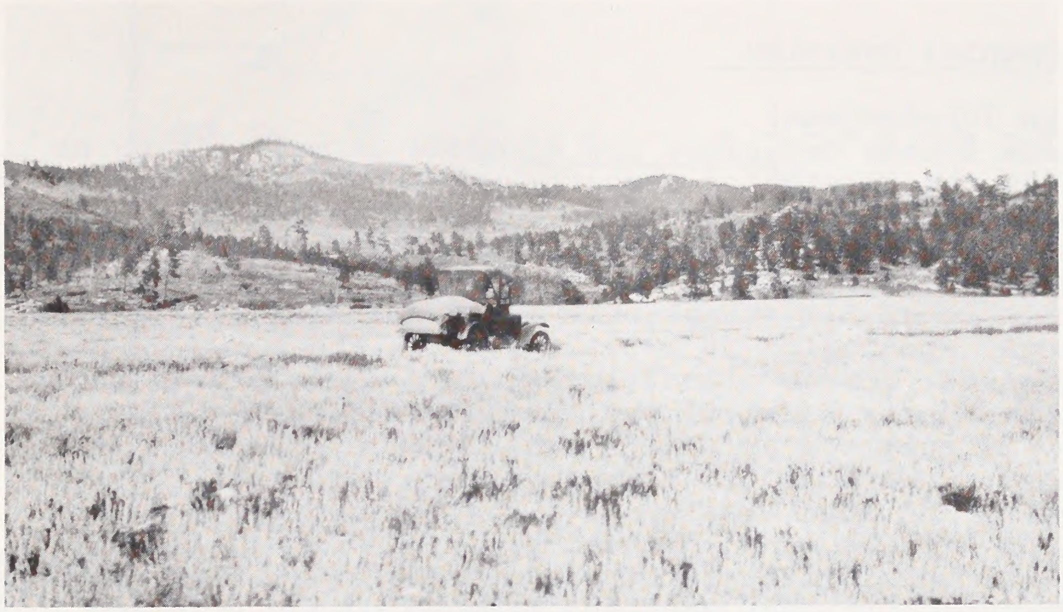
🟨 BLM
🟥 LU
🟦 State

Range - Allotment Management Plans (AMP's) as of March 30, 1978.

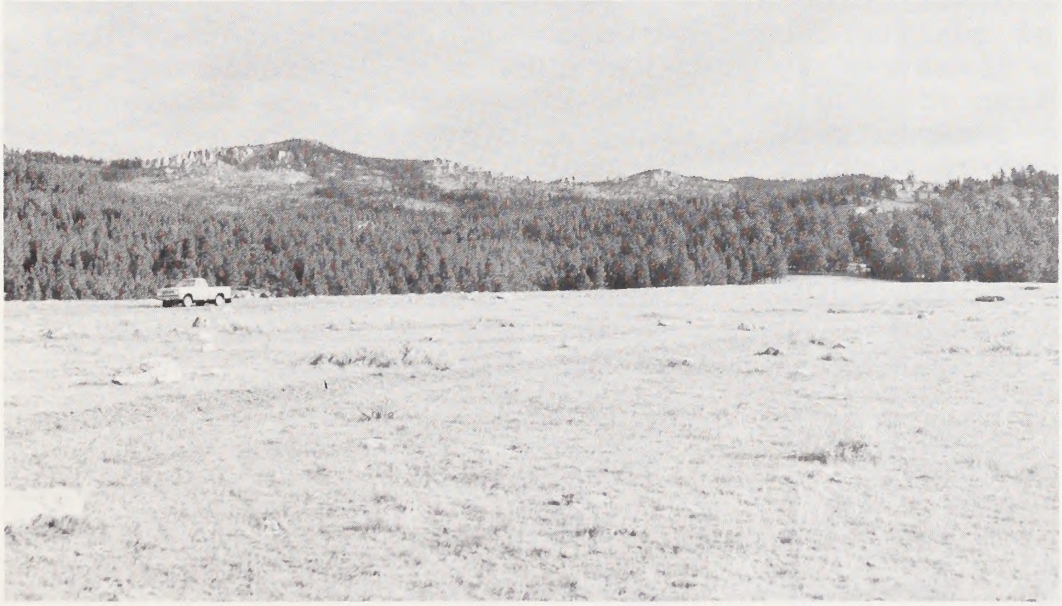
▩ Existing AMP areas and allotment numbers

▨ Proposed Allotment Management Plans (AMP's)

☐ Proposed non AMP Allotments



THIS VIEW TO THE WORN TOP OF THE LITTLE ROCKY MOUNTAINS WAS TAKEN IN T. 25 N., R. 24 E., SEC 21, NW¼ ON JULY 27, 1921. NOTE THE SAGEBRUSH IN THE FOREGROUND AND (PROBABLE) TIMBER HARVEST ON THE SLOPE TO THE LEFT. (ALDEN #1122, 1921)



THE SAGEBRUSH DOMINATED BENCH HAS SHIFTED TO A GRASS DOMINATED ECOSYSTEM. SINCE THIS WAS TAKEN IN 1977, AN EXCEPTIONALLY DRY YEAR, THE RANGE CONDITION IS NOT GOOD. ALSO NOTE THE HEAVY FOREST COVER IN THE MIDDLE GROUND AND CHANGES IN COVER ON THE UPPER SLOPES. (GILKERSON #74, NOVEMBER 1977)

Environmental Overview

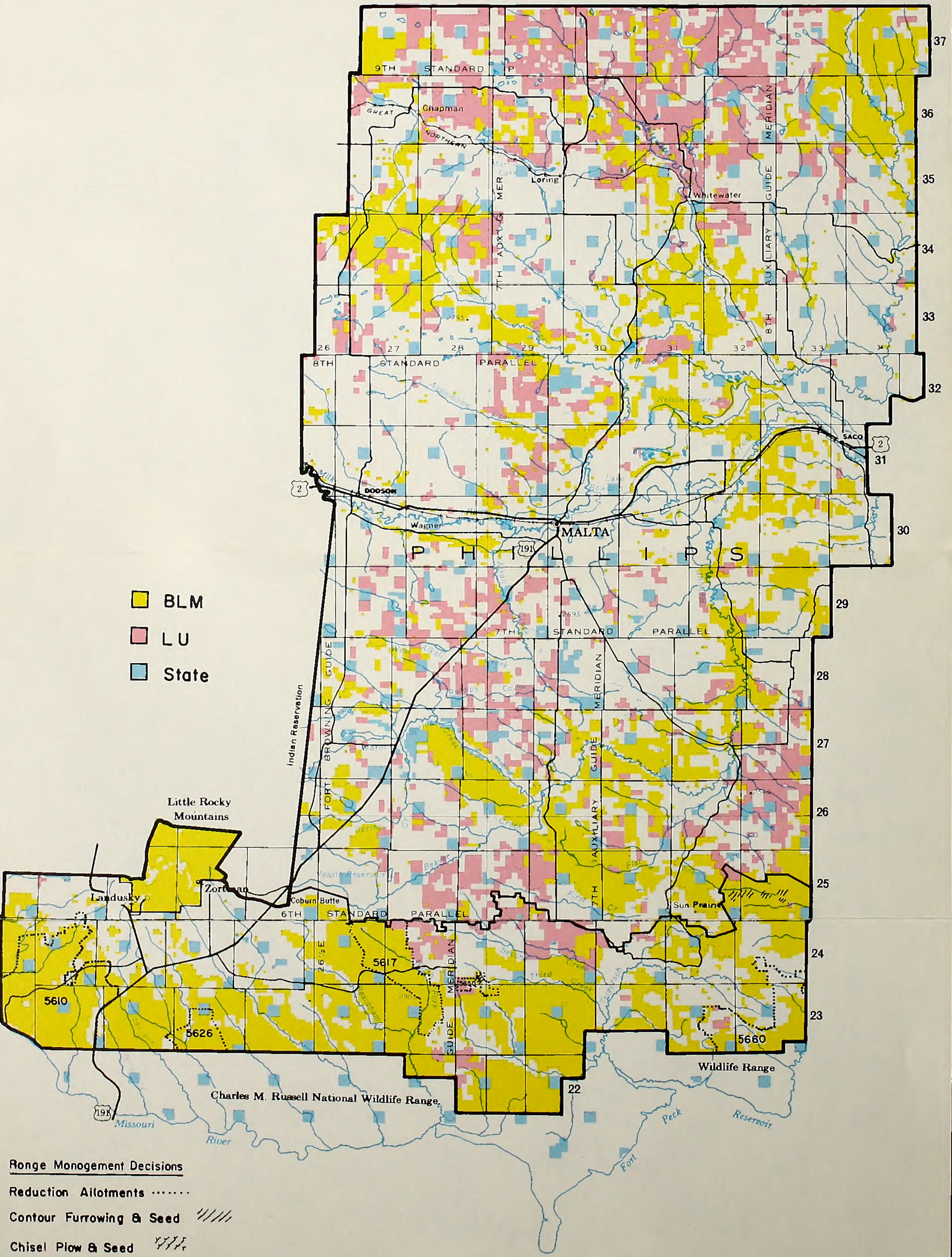
Phillips (UL-Zortman)

Livestock forage decisions are directed at maintaining or improving the vegetation resource. Improved range conditions and increased forage production can be expected to provide benefits to all activities dependent on a sustained yield of quality rangeland vegetation. The forage allocation to livestock is 49,517 animal unit months (AUMs) or 40 percent of a total production of 123,872 AUMs in the planning unit. The livestock forage allocation will be administered in 75 allotments under 8 existing allotment management plans (AMPs), 37 proposed AMPs with the remainder in custodial management. Various range improvements such as fences, reservoirs and land treatments are proposed in the allotments and will be managed under grazing systems. The 60 percent of unallocated forage should insure plant vigor and reproduction, provide watershed protection and wildlife cover and enhance aesthetic and recreation values. Since there are no wild and free roaming horses or burros in the unit, no special range forage allocation is needed for this resource.

Little Rockies

Livestock forage decisions are directed at maintaining or improving the vegetative resource. Improved range conditions and increased forage production can be expected to provide benefits to all activities dependent on a sustained yield of quality rangeland vegetation. The forage allocation to livestock is only 253 AUMs or 8.7 percent of a total production of 2900 AUMs. The livestock forage allocation will be administered in three allotments in the southern and southeastern portion of the unit. No new range developments are proposed. The high percentage of unusable or unallocated forage should insure plant vigor and reproduction, provide watershed protection and wildlife cover and enhance aesthetic and recreation values. Since there are no wild and free roaming horses or burros in the unit, no special range forage allocation is needed for this resource.

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



WATERSHED

Background

Approximately 472,571 acres of inventoried watersheds were included in the analysis for land use planning in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies Planning Units. Based on a watershed inventory, present erosion conditions are as follows:

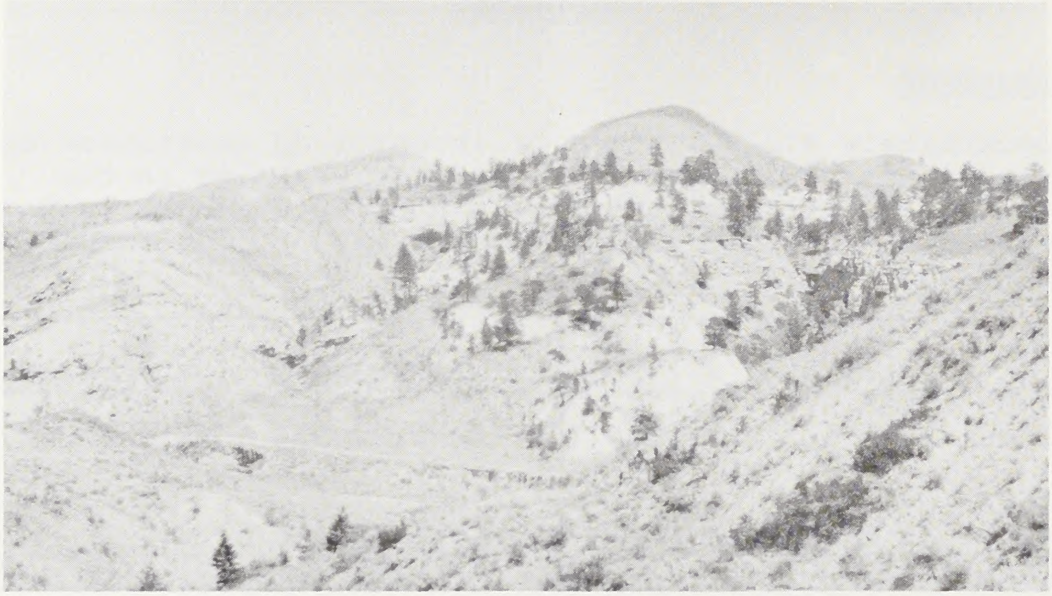
	Stable Acres	%	Slight	%	Moderate	%	Critical	%
UL-Zortman	14,463	3	189,398	43	194,583	44	44,427	10
Little Rockies	6,898	23	21,764	73	1,038	4		
TOTAL	21,361	5	211,162	45	195,621	41	44,427	9

In these planning units, approximately 53,538 acres have been identified as restricted due to bare ground and slopes over 30 percent. These areas are highly susceptible to erosion and will require the best watershed management practices and techniques to prevent or reduce the effect of geologic and accelerated erosion. In addition, approximately 123,421 acres of land have been identified as potential land treatment areas for watershed improvements.

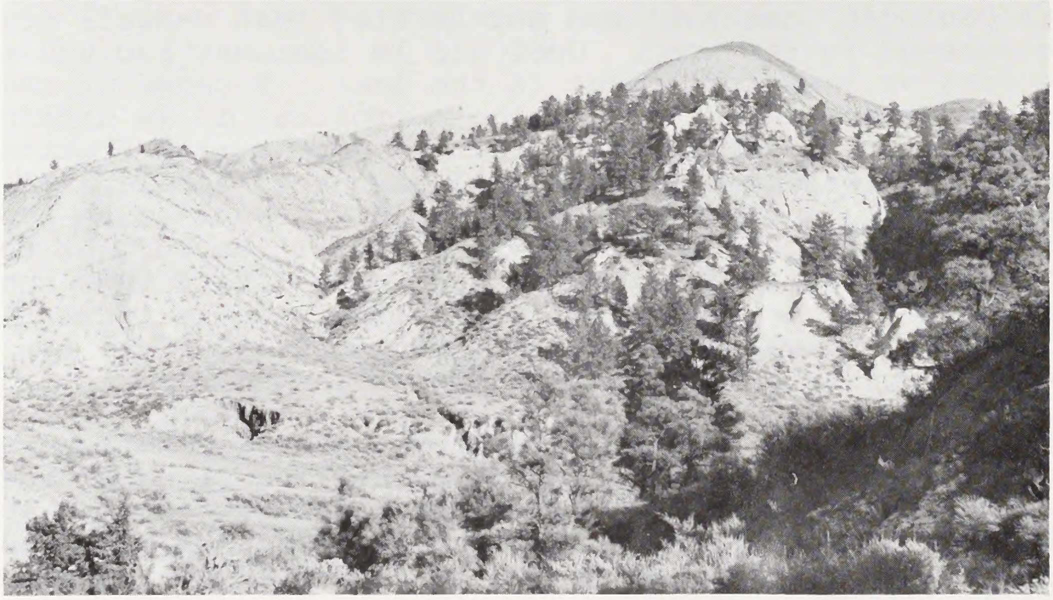
Both geologic (natural) and accelerated (man caused) erosion are present in the area. Geologic is dominant because of the erosive land formations in the area. Because of the wide range and amounts of geologic erosion, it is difficult to measure or estimate the effect of accelerated erosion on and off the watershed. The small amount of accelerated erosion that is occurring is due mainly to selective overgrazing and to surface disturbance activities such as roads, ORV use, mining and explorations. Any activity that increases bare ground above 30 percent will significantly increase runoff and therefore erosion proportionately. This is especially true on the steeper slopes in the area.

Watershed damages in the planning units caused by accelerated or geologic erosion are: deterioration of water quality in streams and reservoirs (sediment); destruction of dikes, dams, roads and culverts; sediment and mine tailings deposited on lowlands; filling of reservoirs with sediment; and loss of topsoil and plant cover.

There are methods to cope with both natural and man caused erosion if cost-benefits and environmental impacts are favorable. These methods are: intensive livestock management, protective measures concerning soil and plant destruction; mechanical land treatments (contour furrowing, check

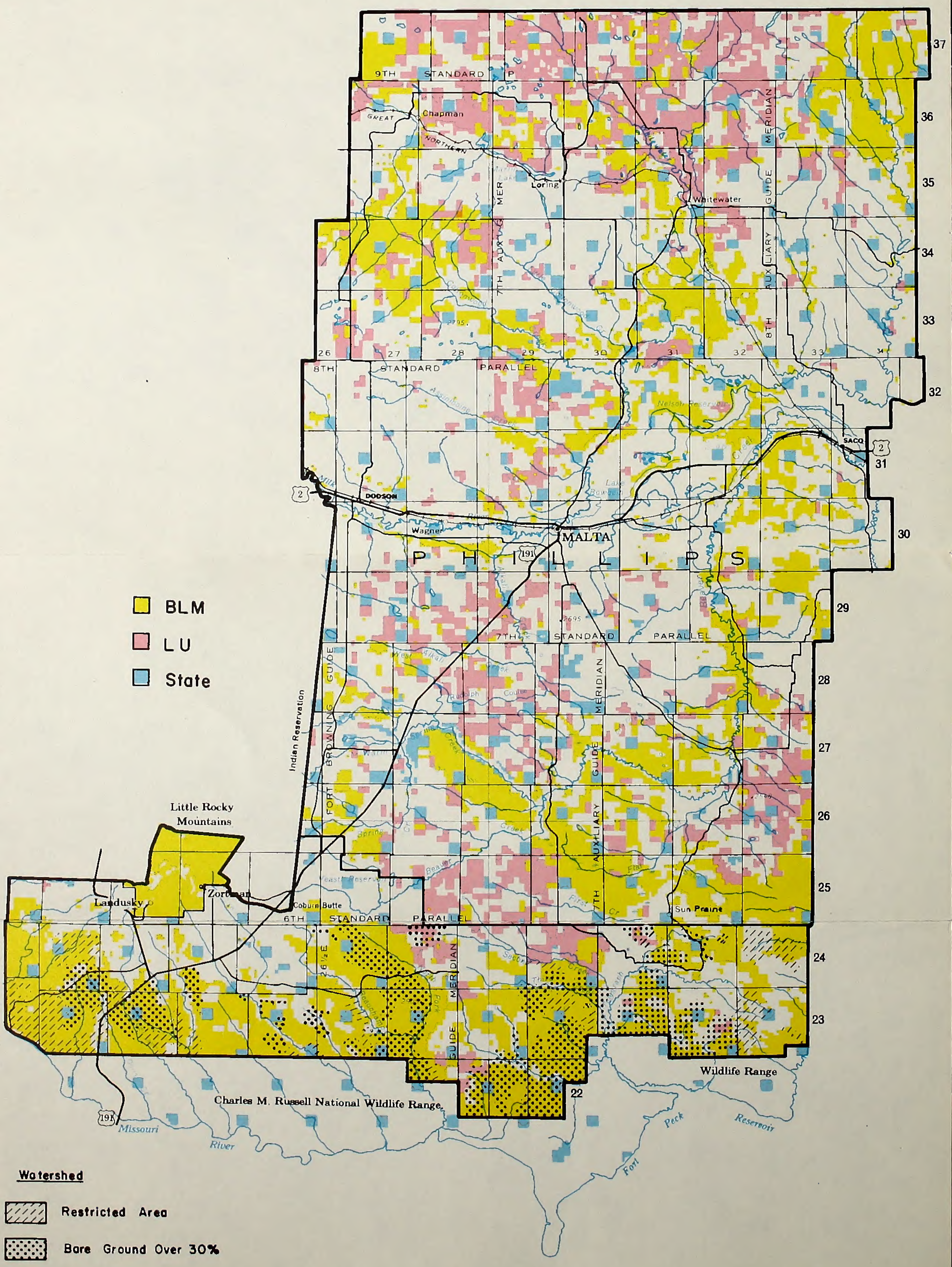


THIS UNDATED PHOTO TAKEN IN T. 23 N., R. 22 E., SEC 22, SHOWS THE ORIGINAL ROAD AND SUBSTANTIAL EROSION AT THE BEND OF THE CREEK. (STANTON #1057)



THE OLD ROAD HAS NOW BEEN WASHED OUT IN THE CENTER OF THE PHOTO WHERE THE INTERMITTENT STREAM LACKED PROPER DRAINAGE STRUCTURES. NOTE THE ACCELERATED EROSION AT THE STREAM BEND. PROPER LOCATION, DESIGN, AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AND DRAINAGE STRUCTURES WILL MINIMIZE IMPACTS OF ROADS ON WATERSHED VALUES. (GILKERSON #67, 1977)

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



dams, seeding and waterspreading) and chemical treatments (sagebrush control and fertilization). All these methods control water erosion or improve plant cover. Best management practices are needed to prevent problems before they start.

Watershed Resource Allocation Decisions (A Partial Listing)

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

1. Control and manage animals that deteriorate the watershed on public lands.

2. Maintain the present fire management program with emphasis on active rehabilitation following destruction of critical ground cover.

3. Initiate land treatment practices and check dams in designated areas.

4. Design and implement grazing management systems to increase ground cover to a maximum and reduce soil loss.

   If the above measures fail to improve plant cover and reduce erosion after ten years on identified problems areas, then additional land treatments will be used where practical.

Little Rockies

1. Update existing roads or trails to watershed standards. The lower Beaver Creek road will be reduced to trail status.

2. Permit off road recreational vehicle travel only on designated road or trails.

3. Maintain and improve the present programs for fire prevention, detection and protection.

4. Manage timber harvest to promote snow accumulation and water yield, and to reduce fire potential.

5. Evaluate potential sites in the headwaters of major drainages for water control structures to check spring runoff, reduce sedimentation and stabilize channel vegetative cover.

6. Restrict development of any project or practice that would encourage livestock, big game or off road vehicle use on slopes exceeding 30 percent.

7. Allocate all vegetative cover on moderate and critical erosion sites (slopes and bare ground over 30 percent) to watershed protection.

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

Water quality, soils and vegetation are stressed as means of improving watershed and overall environmental conditions. The use of livestock management systems, fire management and land treatments are proposed to improve watershed conditions by correcting imbalances resulting from past uses. Benefits expected are decreased soil erosion, improved vegetative cover for wildlife, aesthetics, recreation, livestock forage and better water quality.

Because moderating stipulations are included in the decisions, adverse impacts are slight and short term insofar as the environment is concerned.

Little Rockies

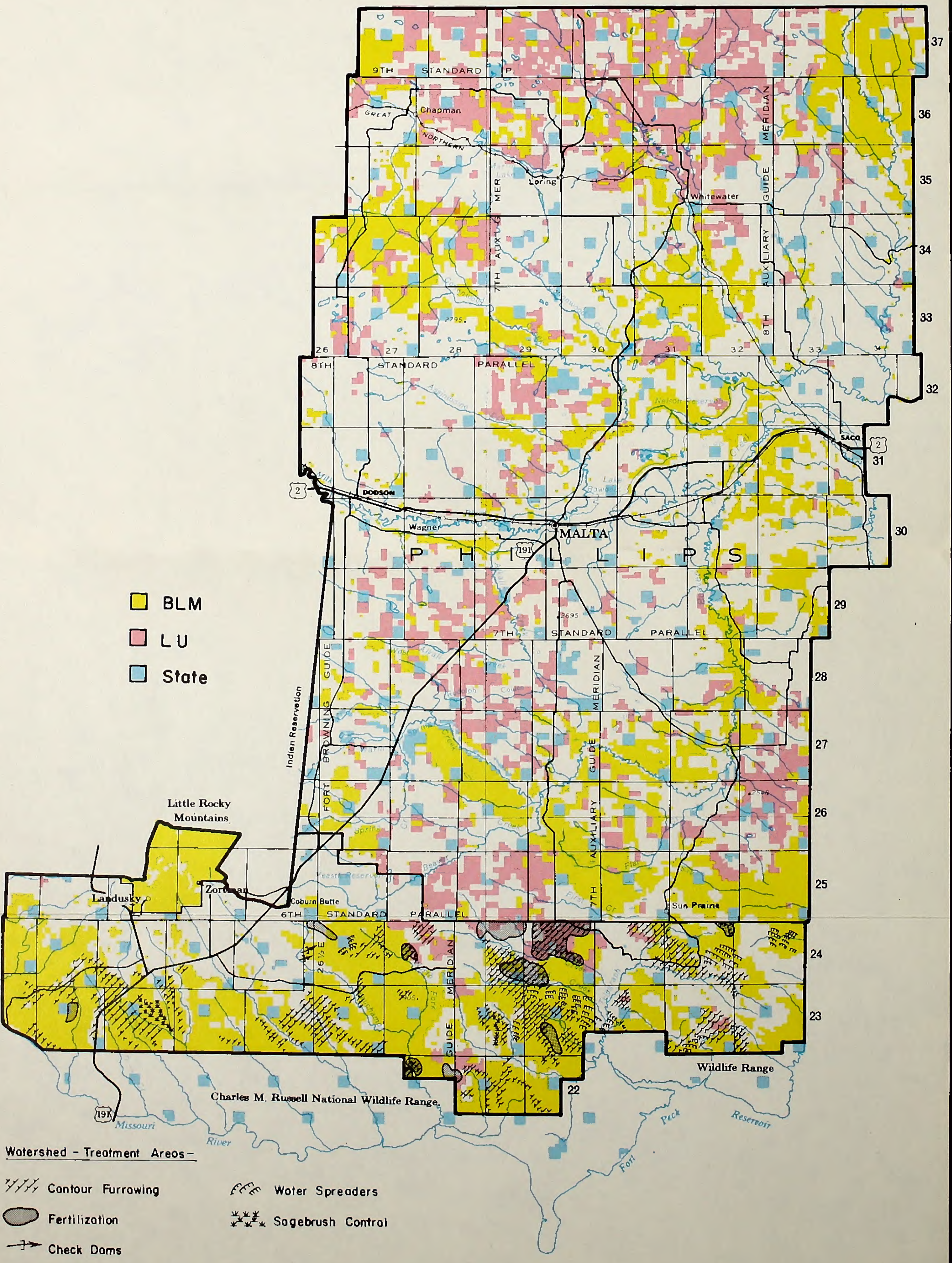
Closely coordinated management of all resources and activity operations is stressed to maintain or improve vegetative cover for maximum watershed protection and stabilization.

BLM cooperation with prospectors, mine operators and livestock operators will facilitate protection of surface and ground waters which are utilized for human consumption in both residential and recreational use. Upgrading or partial closure of specific problem roads and temporary logging roads will reduce gully formation and stream sediment load.

The present fire management program for the Little Rockies unit will be maintained with emphasis on active rehabilitation following destruction of critical ground cover. This will protect not only watershed but wildlife, aesthetic and recreation values as well.

Timber and livestock management decisions will serve to maintain or improve erosion conditions by increasing ground cover and maintaining favorable plant species. Managed timber harvest will promote snow accumulation and water yield and reduce fire potential. Adverse environmental impacts are slight to nonexistent, although some social impact could be expected as a result of special requirements being applied to surface disturbing activities.

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



WILDLIFE

Background

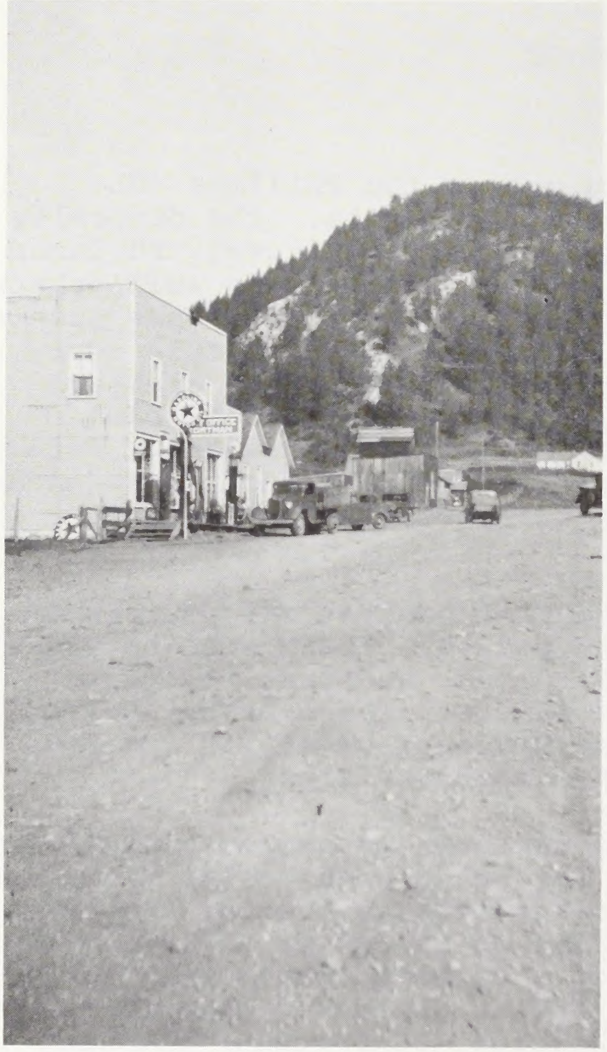
Wildlife is an important resource in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies Planning Units. The diversity of vegetation types associated with agricultural croplands and numerous reservoirs and potholes provides a well balanced variety of habitat for wildlife. Principal big game species include pronghorn antelope, white-tailed deer, mule deer, bighorn sheep and elk. Upland gamebird species are sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, Hungarian partridge, blue grouse, Merriam's turkey, and ring-necked pheasant. Waterfowl consist of numerous puddle and diving ducks and Canada geese. Black-tailed prairie dogs are the most widely distributed nongame species.

Both planning units have potential habitat for four endangered or threatened wildlife species. These species are the black-footed ferret, whooping crane, American peregrine falcon, and Arctic peregrine falcon. The American peregrine falcon, which nests along the Missouri River, is the only species known to exist in the immediate area.

Recreational use and hunting can both be expressed in terms of days of use. (A visitor day is defined as the participation of one person in a specific activity during any part of a 12-hour period.) Hunter days of use gives an indication of the relative importance of a certain species to the local and state economy. Public land is estimated to provide over 3,870 hunter days for the Phillips (UL-Zortman) planning unit, and 400 for the Little Rockies planning unit. Hunting for sage grouse make up the largest portion of the upland game hunter days followed by hunting for sharptails, huns and pheasants. Several fishing reservoirs located on public land provide an estimated 3,500 fishermen days. The numerous potholes and reservoirs on public lands provide an estimated 1,800 hunter days for duck and goose hunting.

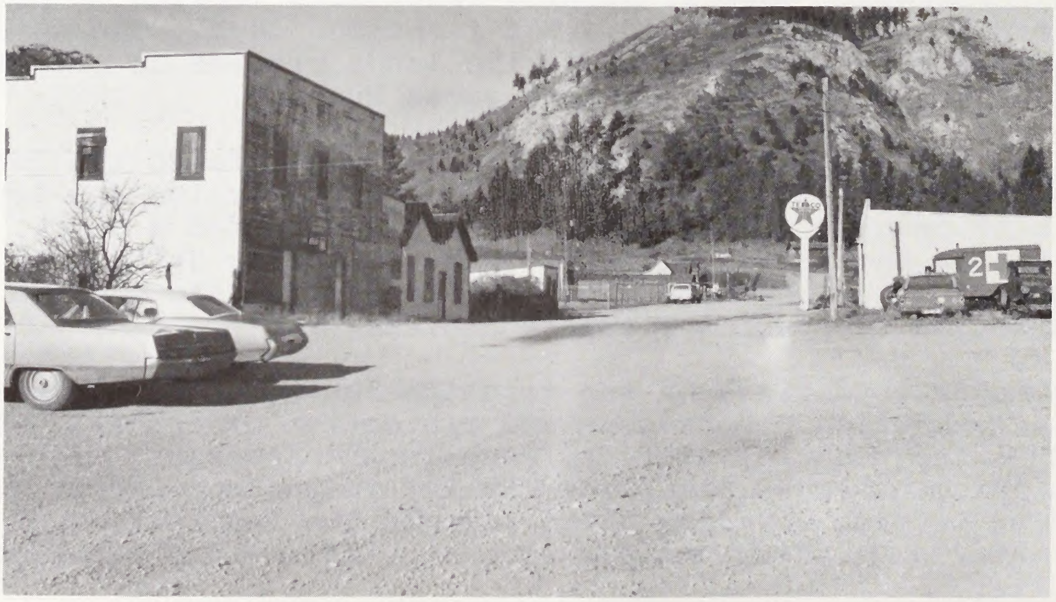
Due to the demonstrated importance of wildlife to the local economy and to Montana as a whole, the protection and development of crucial wildlife habitat was considered a prime objective in overall planning. The following guidelines and those of other resource programs are designed to provide protection to crucial wildlife habitat.

The major objectives of the wildlife habitat activity will be: to provide enhancement and protection of crucial habitats within the resource area; to prepare the necessary wildlife habitat management plans for habitat management and protection; and to provide advisory input towards the acquisition of private lands which contain crucial wildlife and waterfowl habitat.

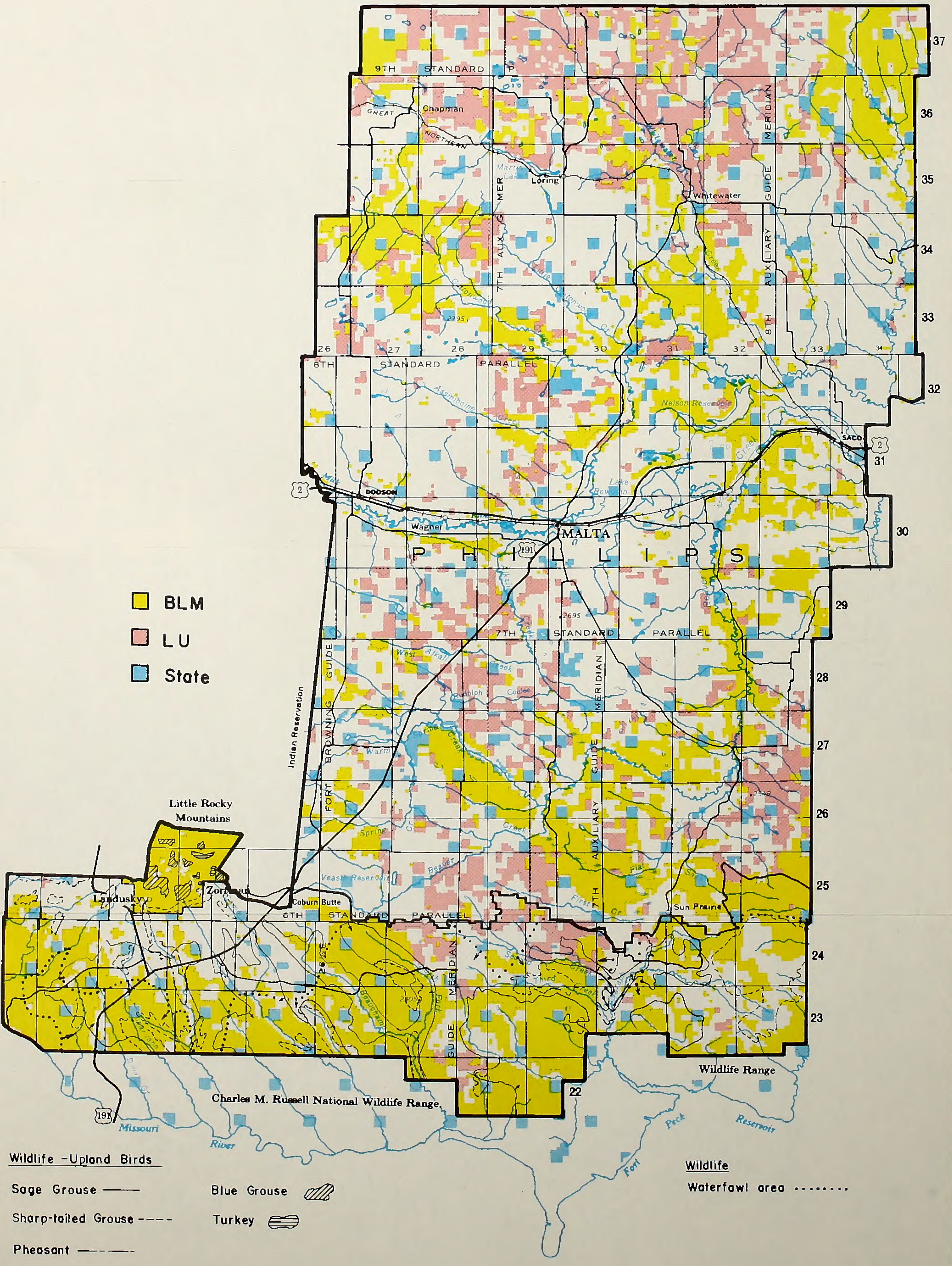


THE MINING TOWN OF ZORTMAN IN THE LITTLE ROCKY MOUNTAINS AS IT APPEARED IN JUNE 1936 JUST PRIOR TO TWO FIRES WHICH BURNED OUT ALL BUT ABOUT 7,000 ACRES OF THE PLANNING UNIT. (PARDEE #1356)

THE ORIGINAL TIMBER STAND WAS COMPOSED OF DOUGLAS-FIR AND PONDEROSA PINE BUT HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH LODGEPOLE PINE. NOTE HOW THE STEEP SLOPES AND SHALLOW SOILS RESTRICT NATURAL REFORESTATION 41 YEARS AFTER THE WILD FIRES. BLM MANAGEMENT DECISIONS WILL PROTECT FORESTED AREAS FROM FIRE TO MAINTAIN WATERSHED AND WILDLIFE HABITAT QUALITY. (GILKERSON #68, 1977)



PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



Wildlife Resource Allocation Decisions (A Partial Listing)

Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

1. Identify wildlife habitats on scattered tracts of public land for retention in public ownership and management under the multiple use concept.

2. Design and locate facilities necessary for recreation, watershed, and proper livestock management so as to interfere as little as possible with their use by wildlife.

3. Increase waterfowl habitat through the construction of new reservoirs of greater than three surface acres in size and the modification of existing structures on public land.

4. Design and construct reservoirs on public lands to provide for a variety of fisheries. Stock all established reservoirs that are suitable and desirable for fisheries.

5. Design and implement allotment management plans (AMP's) to meet the growth requirements of plants necessary for food and cover of resident and migratory wildlife on public lands.

6. Provide habitat for and initiate management of endangered and threatened wildlife species.

7. Allow no land uses which will reduce sagebrush on crucial wildlife areas or eradicate sagebrush in blocks larger than 320 acres.

8. Allow fish and wildlife introduction on public lands which will improve recreational opportunities where feasible and when cooperation is obtained from adjacent landowners.

9. Monitor the vegetative cover on fisheries reservoirs by photo plots to evaluate the trend of shoreline vegetation. If existing or proposed grazing systems do not maintain suitable cover, fence and plant the affected shorelines. Establish watering facilities below the fence as necessary.

Environmental Overview

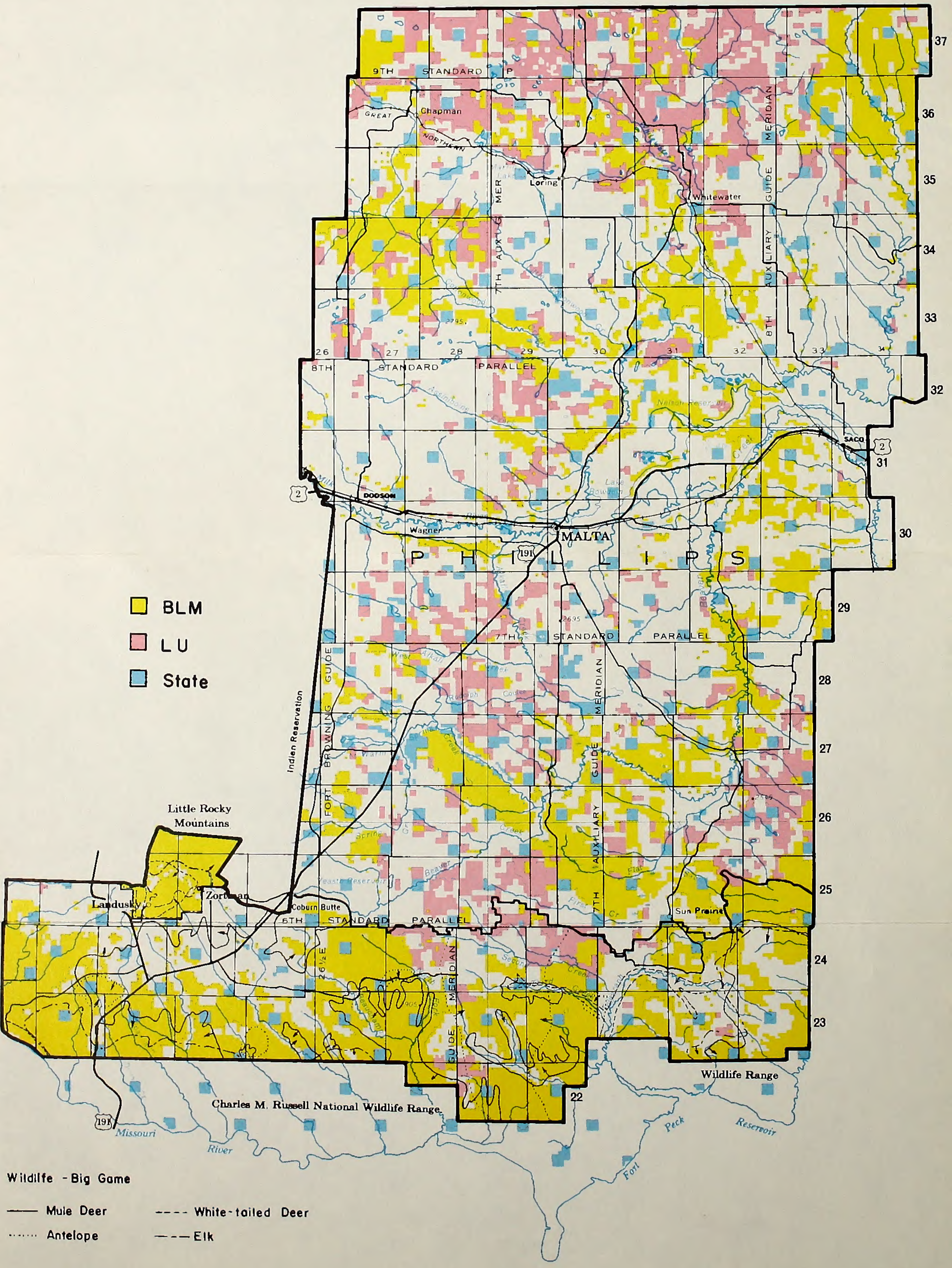
Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

Management actions are aimed at benefiting wildlife habitat and the associated wildlife species. They also favor the maintenance of a balanced ecology. Decisions are directed at protecting and improving crucial habitat areas such as sage grouse and sharp-tailed grouse breeding and nesting areas, wintering areas for big game species; and improving and creating riparian habitat. Mechanical treatment of sagebrush communities will increase the wildlife populations associated with the treated areas.

In the Little Rockies Planning Unit, decisions are directed at protecting and improving specific habitat areas such as sharptailed grouse nesting areas and feeding areas for Merriam's turkey and blue grouse. Modification of commercial timber harvest operations will provide additional interspersion of openings which will favor big game browse and cover areas.

Several decisions were made to restrict or prohibit various types of leases, sales, permits, and other activities. These decisions were in relation to floodplains, areas of crucial riparian habitat, endangered species habitat and streamside areas. New inventories and continued coordination with the Montana State Fish and Game Department will identify additional wildlife habitat management opportunities or problems. Restrictions and coordination with other activities will improve the quality and quantity of wildlife habitat.

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



RECREATION

Background

Recreation plays a significant part in the use of public lands in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies Planning Units. There are two developed campgrounds maintained by the Bureau located in the Little Rockies. Camp Creek Campground had over 20,000 visitor days and Montana Gulch Campground over 10,000 in 1976.

Another significant recreational activity in the area is fishing. With cooperation from the Montana Fish and Game, the Bureau has provided 16 fishing reservoirs with rainbow trout, largemouth bass, and Northern pike. A traffic counter on one small reservoir recorded 477 fisherman days use from spring to fall.

Hunting is also a large part of the recreational scene in this area. The big game hunter can pursue elk, deer, and antelope while the upland bird hunter can choose from sharp-tailed grouse, sage grouse, Hungarian partridge, or pheasant. There are also ducks and geese for the waterfowler. Prairie dog and coyote hunting have become very popular in the last few years.

Both planning units have a number of interesting geological features including five known caves and various erosional features. The most prominent of these is the Missouri Breaks. At this time, fossil hunting and rock hounding are not major recreational pursuits.

Wildlife observation is becoming more popular and the participant has a number of interesting animals to view. Both sharp-tail and sage grouse breeding ground activity may be observed as well as numerous waterfowl. Birds of prey are also commonly sighted.

Both planning units have excellent scenery such as the Little Rocky Mountains, one of the few mountain ranges in this plains region. The Missouri Breaks provide a major visual contrast with the rolling prairie which surround them. Both units also contain several roadless areas which will be inventoried for their wilderness potential.

Recreation Resource Allocation Decisions (A Partial Listing)

Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

1. Identify and locate the public lands by mapping and signing for public use and management.

2. Acquire private lands by purchase or exchange which contain high archeological, historical, or recreational values when determined to be in the public interest.

3. Inventory and develop recreation facilities on public land sites having unique public values and heavy recreation use.

4. Starting with the most popular fishing reservoirs, fence small rectangular areas near the high water mark to keep out cattle including calves. Plant trees in these fenced areas. Have new fishing reservoirs incorporate these fenced in strips into the overall plans.

5. Develop a Recreation Activity Plan for the Little Rockies Planning Unit by 1982.

6. Protect the recreational potential on Camp Creek by expanding the recreational withdrawal.

7. Conduct a comprehensive inventory of the Azure Cave including flora, fauna studies and obtain professional recommendations as to future management.

Environmental Overview

Phillips (UL-Zortman)

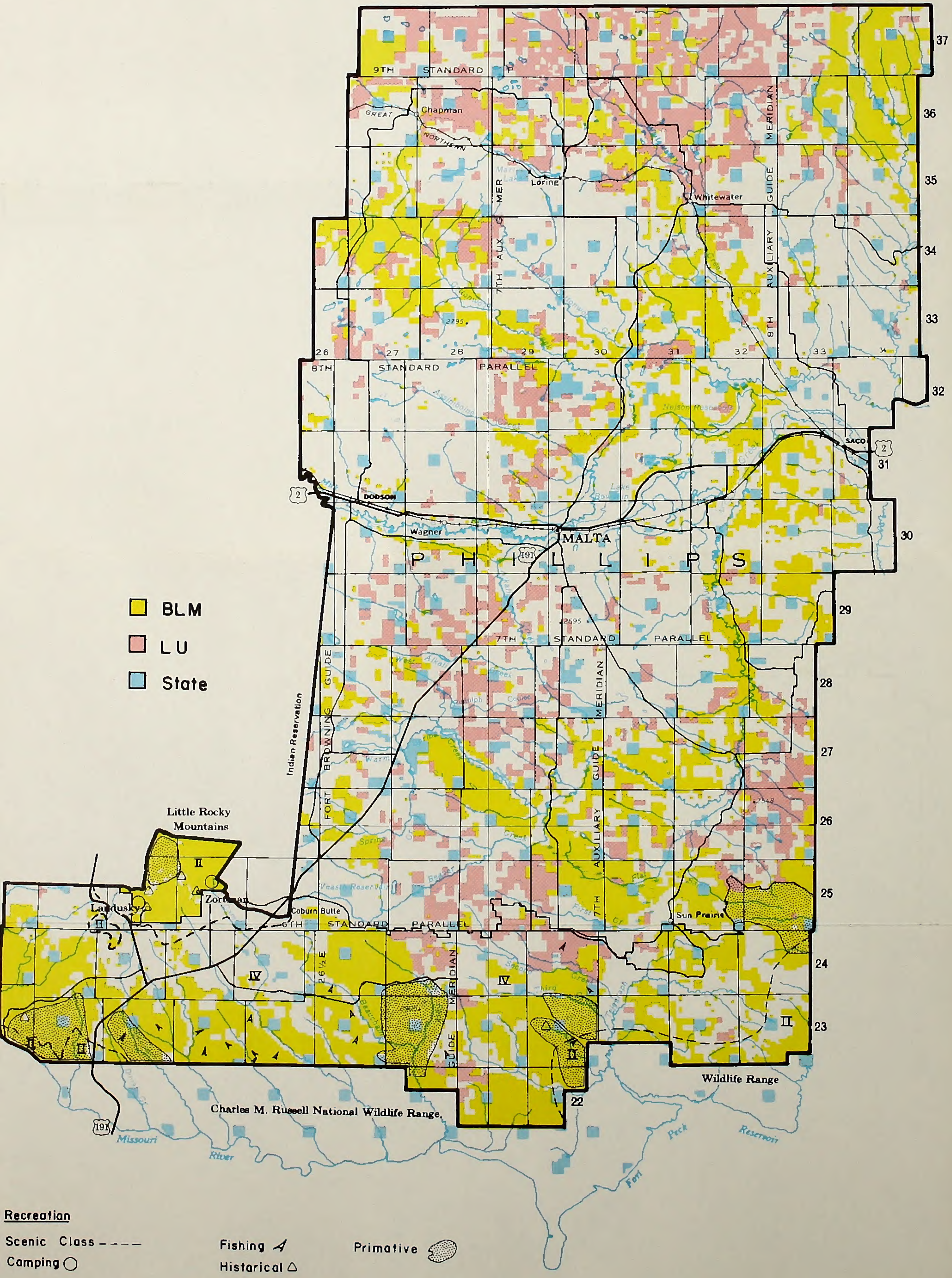
Minimal impacts are expected as a result of recreation management decisions, since in general they favor environmental protection and continuance of present lifestyles. This planning unit is essentially rolling prairie dissected by coulees. Parts of the Missouri River Breaks are also included. Since the planning unit is in close proximity to the Little Rockies, it receives a large amount of recreation use. Decisions to obtain control through protective withdrawal will limit surface disturbing activities, and intrusions to preserve historic values, provide recreation and maintain a quality visual resource.

Natural areas will be preserved and recreation activities will not be allowed to significantly degrade plant and animal communities. Natural areas and sites will be protected and managed intensively to preserve scientific and social values. Restraints for the protection of geological values, scenic qualities and endangered animals and plants will no doubt cause conflicts with other uses. The overall recreation program favors environmental protection and improved social well being.

Little Rockies

Minimal impacts are expected as a result of recreation management decisions, since in general they favor environmental protection and continuance of present lifestyles.

PHILLIPS RESOURCE AREA



The planning unit is essentially an isolated mountain range which serves as a focal point of recreational activities in northeastern and central Montana. Planned control through protective withdrawal will limit surface disturbing activities and intrusions to preserve historic values and maintain a quality visual resource. Natural areas will be preserved and recreation activities will not be allowed to significantly degrade plant and animal communities.

Natural areas and sites will be protected and managed intensively to preserve scientific and social values. Some restraints for protection of geological values, scenic qualities and endangered wildlife will no doubt cause conflicts with other uses. The overall recreation program favors environmental protection and improved social well being.

CULTURAL

Background

There are many archeological and historical sites in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies Planning Units, but to date only the former Planning Unit has been surveyed.

During the summer of 1976, an inventory was completed on 14,720 acres of public lands in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) Planning Unit. Equivalent to 23 square miles, this amounted to a 5 percent sampling. Of the seventy two archeological sites identified, one site known as Indian Lake Rock, has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Other sites also identified as having historical interest are the towns of Zortman and Landusky, Ruby Gulch, Kid Curry's Hideaway and Little Ben mines in the Little Rockies Planning Unit.

Many more archeological and historical sites are known to exist throughout this area but have yet to be located and recorded.

Cultural Resource Allocation Decisions (A Partial Listing)

Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

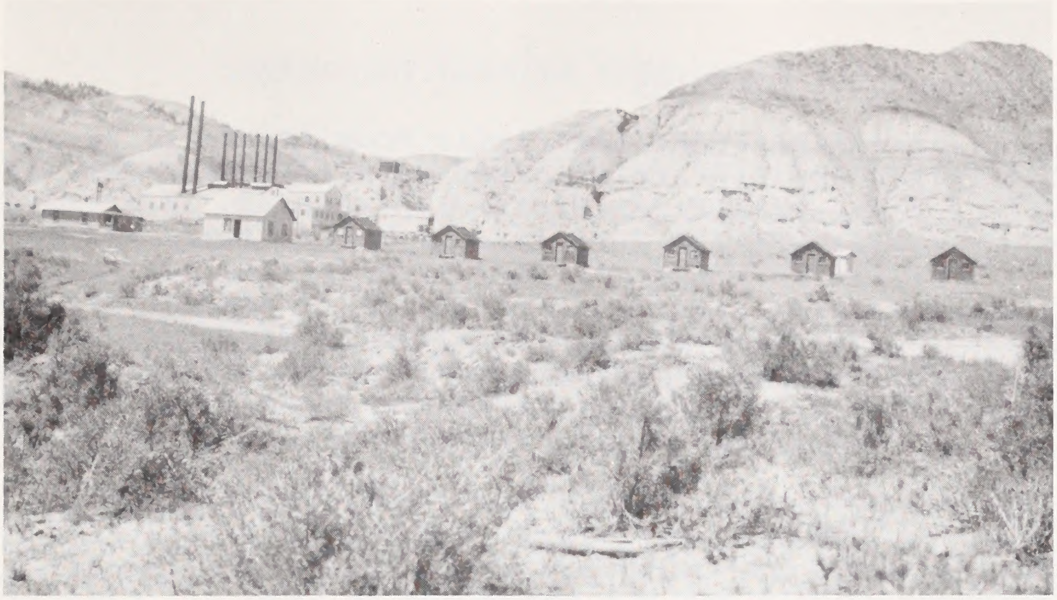
1. Continue cultural resource inventory in the Phillips (UL-Zortman) Planning Unit and begin inventory in the Little Rockies Planning Unit as priorities and funds permit.

2. Monitor and protect known existing archeological, historical and paleontological sites which are subject to erosion and vandalism.

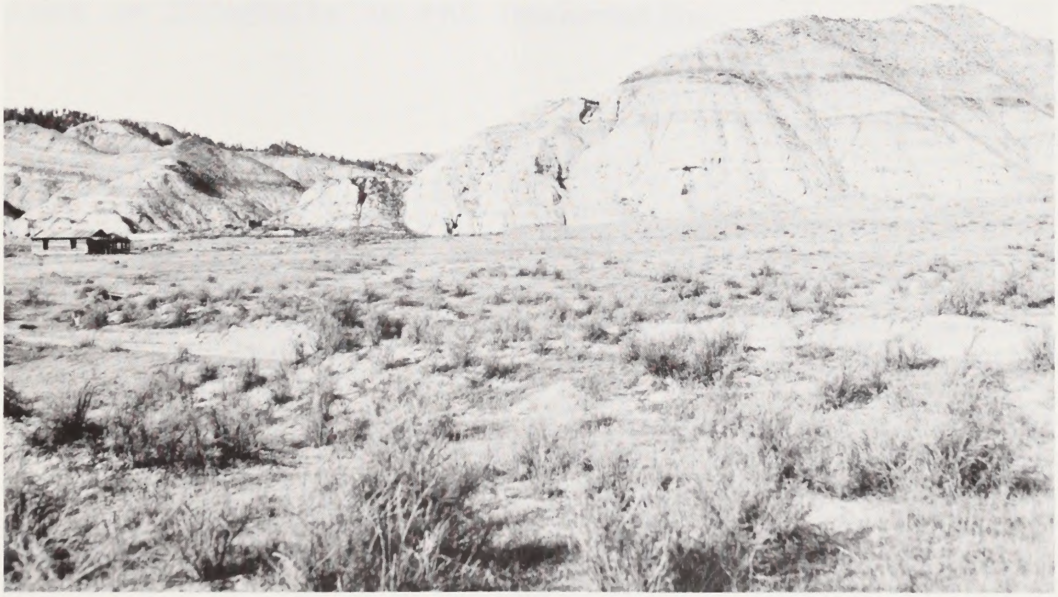
3. Begin preparing the area's history and prehistory. Provide several sites for public use, viewing and enjoyment.

4. Provide for adequate protection of cultural resources which will be adversely affected by surface disturbing activities. Projects will be approved and undertaken when adequate protective measures have been taken.

5. Initiate National Register nomination when highly significant cultural resources are identified by inventory. Begin nominating proceedings on Landusky and Zortman historic townsites.



THE LITTLE ROCKIES PLANNING UNIT IS RICH IN BOTH MINERAL WEALTH AND HISTORY. THE PHILLIPS POWER PLANT, ON PRIVATE LAND ON THE MISSOURI RIVER IN T. 23 N., R. 22 E., SEC 21, SW¼, BURNED LOCAL COAL TO GENERATE ELECTRIC POWER FOR GOLD AND SILVER MINES IN THE LITTLE ROCKES AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY. (COLLIER #862, 1925)



THE POWER PLANT IS ALL GONE EXCEPT FOR ONE LOG CABIN AND THE FOUNDATION WHERE THE PLANT ITSELF STOOD. EXPANDED MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE LITTLE ROCKIES WOULD LIKELY CREATE NUMEROUS BENEFICIAL AND ADVERSE EFFECTS ON SOCIAL VALUES AND THE ENVIRONMENT. THE LONG RANGE IMPACTS MAY CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE WHEN WE LOOK AT THE HISTORY OF THE AREAS' PAST ACTIVITIES. (GILKERSON #63, 1977)

Environmental Overview

Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies

Negligible impacts are expected as a result of the cultural resource management decisions. In general, these decisions favor protection and further study of cultural resources.

Recommendations include: continuance of intensive surveys, nomination to the National Register of important and significant sites, adequate protection of known cultural resources where surface disturbing activities occur, and investigation and interpretation of selected sites.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PLANS

A number of decisions in this management framework plan deal with livestock grazing in allotments which encompass both BLM and C.M. Russell Wildlife Range managed lands. These decisions were arrived at with very minimal consideration of planning and coordination with the Wildlife Range.

A new thrust in planning on the Wildlife Range is in its initial stages and consequently, suitable guidance from this planning was not available for consideration and integration into planning for BLM lands.

It is possible that BLM plans and decisions may not be fully compatible with management across the boundary in the Wildlife Range. It is also likely that as the range planning is completed, it will be necessary for the BLM to reevaluate some decisions and possibly make adjustments.

The Fort Belknap Indian Reservation currently has no comprehensive multiple use plans, however, the Reservation does have individual resource management programs for livestock, recreation, and timber which will benefit indirectly by BLM management decisions in the Little Rockies and UL Bend-Zortman areas. There does not appear to be any BLM land or resource allocations which would adversely affect the cultural values or lifestyle on the Reservation.

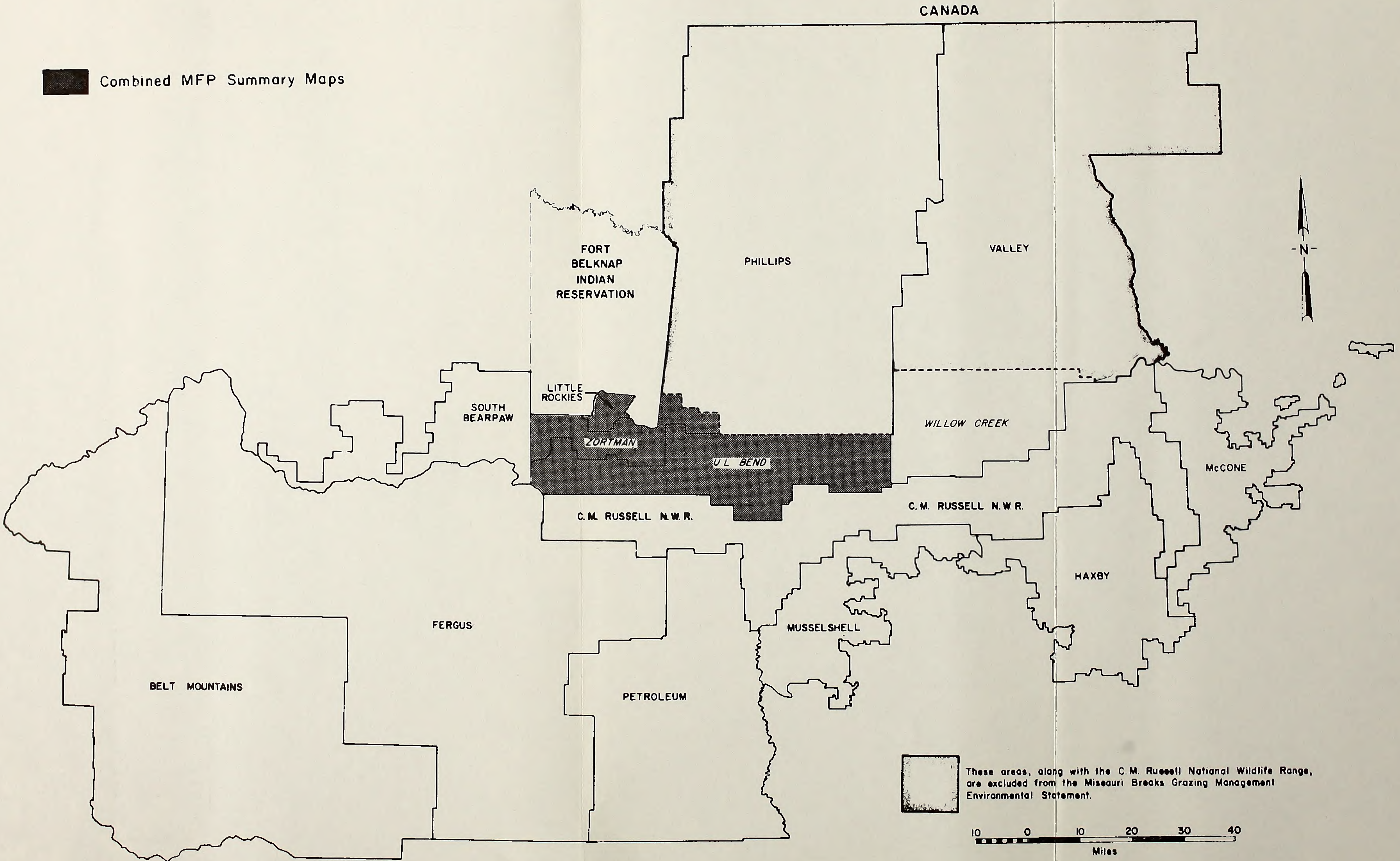
ACTIONS AFTER THE MFP

The Phillips (UL-Zortman) and Little Rockies Management Framework Plans will be followed by on-the-ground actions based on the decisions contained in each. These actions will be subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, except for those which are nondiscretionary due to other federal laws. Examples would be wilderness review and/or withdrawal, and protection of federally-listed endangered or threatened species. Environmental assessments will be prepared for each action whether it is conducted by other agencies or the BLM. In some cases, another federal agency may have primary responsibility for preparing an assessment but with BLM representatives participating. If the impacts of the proposed action are unacceptable or do not provide a reasonable social, environmental and economic return, the proposed action may be modified or rejected.

The implementation of allotment management plans and issuance of BLM grazing licenses/permits will be the subject of the "Missouri River Breaks Grazing Environmental Statement." This statement will describe the impacts of land use decisions including allotment management plans and the allocation of vegetative resources in ten planning units as shown on the following map. (The striped areas represent the three planning units described in this summary.) Note that while the C.M. Russell Wildlife Range is surrounded by the statement area, it is not directly subject to its analysis. This statement is currently scheduled for completion by August 1979, by the BLM Montana State Office, Branch of Environmental Coordination.

The on-the-ground actions initiated by BLM are also dependent upon necessary funding by Congress. Accordingly, it may be some time before some of these decisions are carried out. Implementation is also dependent upon completion of wilderness review as required in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Any major changes in this plan will be subject to public review and comment. It is anticipated that this plan will provide the basis for resource management to both the District and Resource Area staffs for approximately three years. A program of resource inventory will continue to monitor any changes which may lead to modification of resource use. Significant changes in Federal, State or public policy or attitudes may also cause revision of this management framework plan.



These areas, along with the C.M. Russell National Wildlife Range, are excluded from the Missouri Breaks Grazing Management Environmental Statement.

Montana BLM Organization

The Bureau's work in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota is administered from a State Office headquarters located in Billings, Montana. Within these three states, the 8.4 million surface acres and 55 million* subsurface acres of public lands are further divided administratively into four districts with District Offices in Butte, Lewistown, and Miles City; and Dickinson, North Dakota. Each District is divided into Resource Areas to facilitate day to day administration and long term management on a multiple use basis.

The surface and subsurface acreages administered by the four BLM Districts are noted in the table below:

ACREAGE STATISTICS
MONTANA BLM ORGANIZATION

DISTRICT	SURFACE OWNERSHIP		SUBSURFACE OWNERSHIP		TOTAL ALL OWNERSHIP
	BLM	OTHER	BLM	OTHER	
Butte	1,334,000	33,456,400	2,285,345	32,505,054	34,790,400
Lewistown	3,884,701	33,167,885	8,177,983	28,879,603	37,057,586
Miles City Montana	2,785,299	17,363,119	10,910,741	9,237,677	20,148,418
S.Dakota	276,000	48,335,200	800,000	47,811,200	48,611,200
Dickinson	68,000	44,266,720	4,968,000	39,366,720	44,334,720

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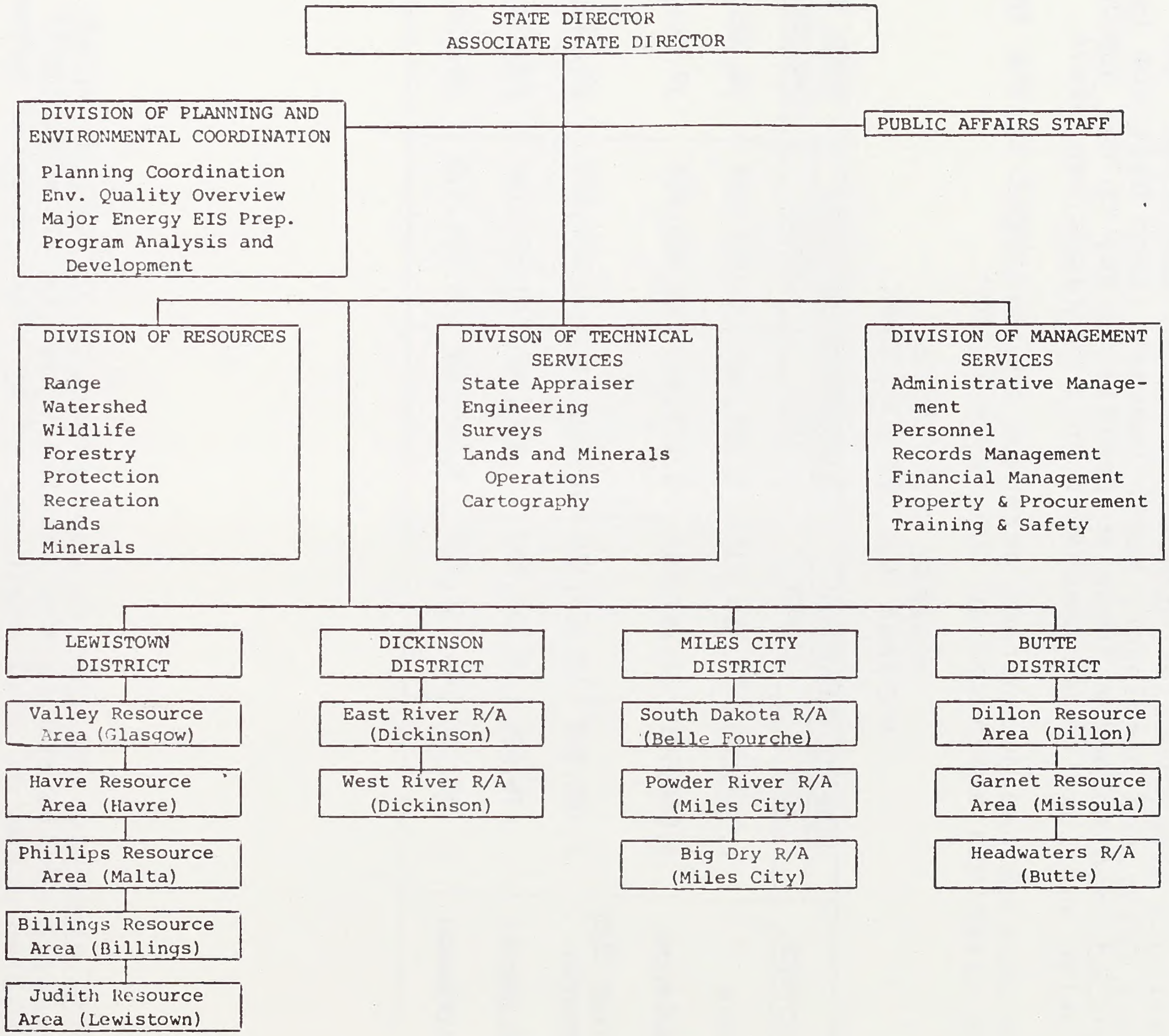
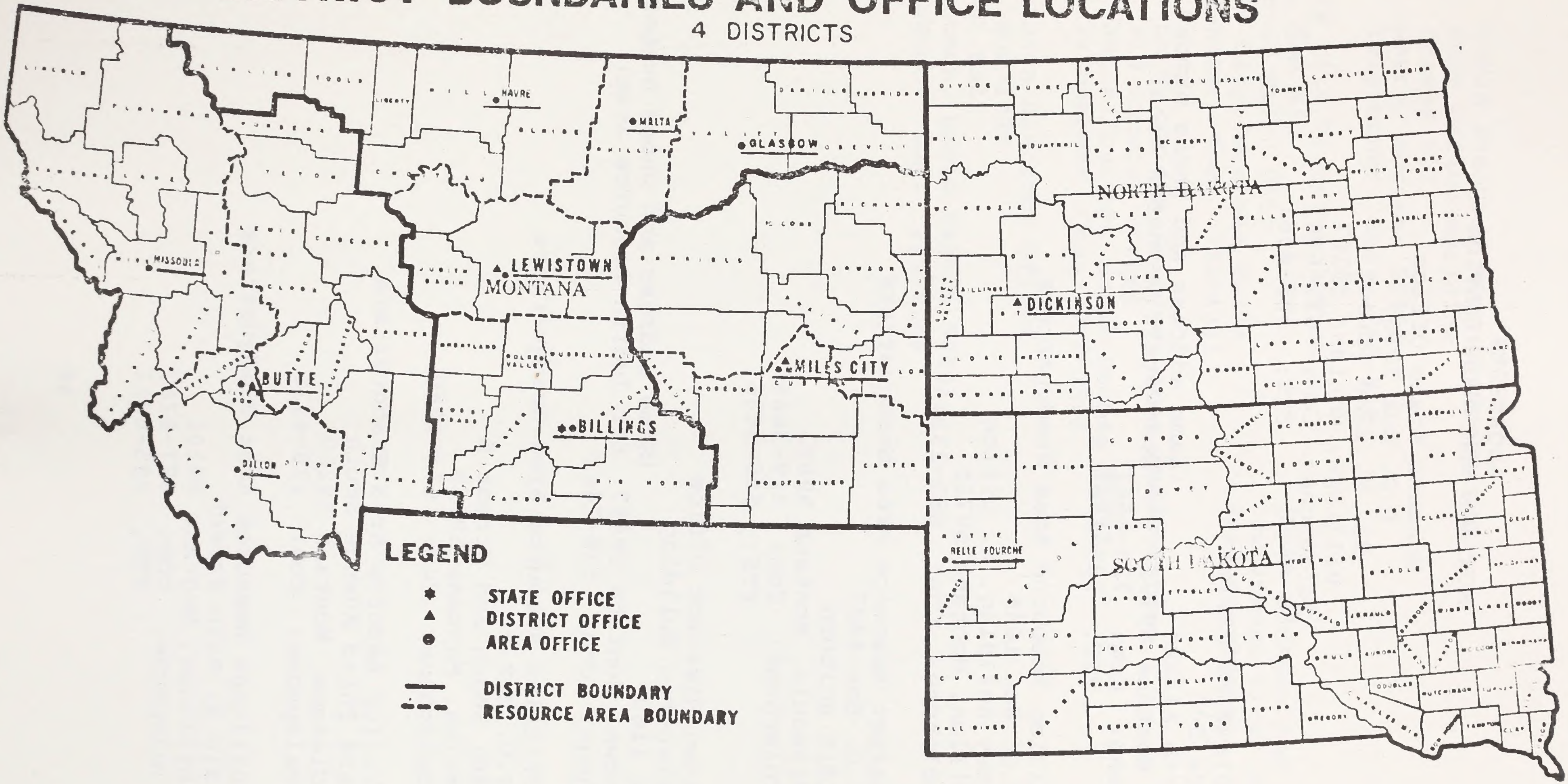
*BLM directly administers approximately 28 million acres of mineral estate and is the leasing agent to an additional 27 million acres of land administered by other federal agencies.


STATE DIRECTOR
ASSOCIATE STATE DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION
Planning Coordination
Env. Quality Overview
Major Energy EIS Prep.
Program Analysis and Development
PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF
DIVISION OF RESOURCES
Range
Watershed
Wildlife
Forestry
Protection
Recreation
Lands
Minerals
DIVISON OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
State Appraiser
Engineering
Surveys
Lands and Minerals Operations
Cartography
DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES
Administrative Management
Personnel
Records Management
Financial Management
Property & Procurement
Training & Safety
LEWISTOWN DISTRICT
Valley Resource Area (Glasgow)
Havre Resource Area (Havre)
Phillips Resource Area (Malta)
Billings Resource Area (Billings)
Judith Resource Area (Lewistown)
DICKINSON DISTRICT
East River R/A (Dickinson)
West River R/A (Dickinson)
MILES CITY DISTRICT
South Dakota R/A (Belle Fourche)
Powder River R/A (Miles City)
Big Dry R/A (Miles City)
BUTTE DISTRICT
Dillon Resource Area (Dillon)
Garnet Resource Area (Missoula)
Headwaters R/A (Butte)

DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND OFFICE LOCATIONS

4 DISTRICTS



ADDRESSES
MONTANA BLM ORGANIZATION

Montana State Office
P.O. Box 30157
222 N. 32nd Street
Billings, Montana 59107
Telephone: Com: 657-6561
FTS: 585-6561

Butte District Office
P.O. Box 308
220 North Alaska
Butte, Montana 59701
Telephone: Com: 723-6561
FTS: 585-6561

(Same address and phone number for Headwaters Resource Area)

Dillon Resource Area Headquarters
P.O. Box 1048
Ibey Building, N. Dillon
Dillon, Montana 59725
Telphone: Com: 683-2337

Garnet Resource Area Headquarters
P.O. Box 4427
1819 Holborn
Missoula, Montana 59801
Telephone: Com: 329-3686
FTS: 585-3686

Lewistown District Office
Bank Electric Building
Drawer 1160
Lewistown, Montana 59457
Telephone: Com: 538-7461

(Same address and phone number for for Judith Resource Area)

Phillips Resource Area Headquarters
P.O. Box B
501 South 2nd Street E
Malta, Montana 59538
Telephone: Com: 654-1240

Valley Reource Area Headquarters
626 Third Avenue South
Glasgow, Montana 59230
Telephone: Com: 228-4316

Billings Resource Area Headquarters
810 E. Main Street
Billings, Montana 59101
Telephone: Com: 657-6262
FTS: 585-6262

Havre Resource Area Headquarters
Post Office Building
Drawer 911
Havre, Montana 59501
Telephone: Com: 265-5891

Miles City District Office
P.O. Box 940
West of Miles City
Miles City, Montana 59301
Telephone: Com: 232-4331

(Same address and phone number
for Powder River and Big Dry
Resource Areas)

South Dakota Resource Area Headquarters
310 Roundup Street
Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717
Telephone: Com: 892-2526

Dickinson District Office
P.O. Box 1229
Pulver Hall
Dickinson, North Dakota 58601
Telephone: Com: 225-9148

GLOSSARY

ACTIVITY PLAN. Detailed action plans for specific program activities. Examples include Allotment Management Plans, Habitat Management Plans, Recreation Site Development Plans, etc.

AESTHETICS. Dealing with the sense of the beautiful and with judgements concerning beauty.

ALLOTMENT (GRAZING ALLOTMENT). An area of land where one or more individuals graze their livestock. It generally consists of BLM lands but may include parcels of private or state owned lands. The number of livestock and season(s) of use are stipulated for each allotment. An allotment may consist of several pastures or be only one pasture.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP). A concisely written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures if required, designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment.

ANIMAL UNIT MONTH. A standardized unit of measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the complete sustenance of one animal unit for a period of one month; also a unit of measurement of grazing privileges which represents the privilege of grazing one animal unit for a period of one month.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SITE. Site which contains objects of antiquity or cultural values relating to history, or prehistory.

CULTURAL RESOURCES. A term that includes resources of historical, archaeological, or architectural significance, which are fragile, limited, and nonrenewable portions of the human environment.

DEFERRED ROTATION GRAZING. The discontinuance of livestock grazing on various parts of a range in succeeding years, allowing each part to rest successively during the growing season to permit seed production, establishment of seedlings, or restoration of plant vigor.

ECOLOGY. A study of animals and plants in their relation to each other and to their environment.

ENDANGERED OR THREATENED STATUS. Determined for plants and animals by any one or a combination of the following factors: (1) the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, sporting, scientific or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) the adequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other natural or man-made factors affecting its continued existence.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RECORD (EAR). A concisely written record of environmental factors in land management actions.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT (ES). A written analysis of the impacts of a proposed project (e.g., grazing program) on the environment.

EXCLOSURES. An area protected (usually by fences) against the entrance of unwanted animals.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA). Public Law 94-579, October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM "Organic Act" which provides the majority of BLM's legislated authority, direction, policy and basic management guidance.

FORAGE ALLOCATION. The percent of average annual forage production allocated in the land use decision process to a given activity (i.e., domestic livestock wildlife, water protection and enhancement, wild and free-roaming horses and burros).

IMPACT. Negative or positive effects on social, economic, institutional, environmental and other resource values.

LAND USE DECISIONS. Resource allocations which resolve on-the-ground conflicts generated by attempting to fully implement all activities on the same general area of land. The decision reflects social, economic, environmental, political and interagency considerations.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP). A planning decision document which establishes, for a given planning area, land use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple use, and management objectives to be achieved for each class of land use or protection. It is the Bureau's land use plan. It is prepared in three steps: Step 1 - Resource Recommendations; Step 2 - Impact Analysis and Alternative Development; and Step 3 - Decisionmaking.

MINERALIZED ZONE. A mineral-bearing belt or area extending across or through a district. It is usually distinguished from a vein or lode as being wide, the mineralization extending in some cases hundreds of feet from a fissure of contact plane.

MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT. Coordinated management of the various surface and sub-surface resources, without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land, that will best meet the present and future needs of the people.

NON-DISCRETIONARY. Actions required by federal law, court or Executive Order, i.e., protection of designated, endangered, or threatened plants and animals, protection of designated historical or archaeological sites, etc.

PALEONTOLOGICAL SITE. Areas with known evidence of prehistoric forms of life (plant and animal fossils).

PLANNING UNIT. A geographic unit within a Bureau of Land Management district which includes related lands, resources, and use pressure problems which are considered together for resource inventory and planning.

RAPTORS. A functional group of birds including all birds of prey, such as the eagle, hawk, owl, and vulture.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION. See LAND USE DECISION

REST ROTATION GRAZING SYSTEM. A grazing system providing for systematic and sequential grazing by livestock and resting from livestock use on a range area to provide for the production of livestock while simultaneously maintaining or improving the vegetation and soil fertility.

RIPARIAN. Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream or other body of water.

SUBBITUMINOUS COAL. Coal ranking intermediate between lignite and bituminous with calorific values in the range of 8,300-13,000 Btu's.

SUSTAINED YIELD. The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the public lands consistent with multiple use.

TAILINGS. Waste or mining debris left in various processes of mining or milling resulting from the washing, concentration or treatment of ground ore.

WATERSHED. A basin or region draining into a creek, stream, river, river system, or body of water.

WITHDRAWAL. An action which withdraws described public lands from operation of certain laws which are also described in the withdrawal order.

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(June 1984)

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